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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

ANNUAL REPORT

(27 April 1994 - 11 April 1995)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1995

SUPPLEMENT No. 16

UNITED NATIONS

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NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Annual Report covering the period from 27 April 1994 to 11 April 1995

INTRODUCTION

1. The present Annual Report was adopted unanimously by the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) at the eleventh meeting of its fiftieth session on 11 April 1995.

CHAPTER I

ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

2. None.

CHAPTER II

WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE ITS FORTY-NINTH SESSION

A. Activities of subsidiary bodies

3. A list of meetings held since the forty-ninth session is contained in Annex II, showing in each case the dates, the officers and the symbols of the report. These reports reflect the discussions held and record the agreements reached and decisions taken. The reports of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission contain also the programmes of work adopted by these bodies.

B. Other activities

4. Pursuant to the decisions of the Commission, the Executive Secretary submitted to the fiftieth session a number of progress reports on projects carried out under the direct authority of the Commission itself. (See Annex III)

5. The secretariat serviced the regular session of the Commission, meetings of its subsidiary bodies, and other meetings held under its auspices. Periodic reviews, including the annual Economic Survey of Europe, the Economic Bulletin for Europe and a series of specialized statistical bulletins, were published. The secretariat maintained close and regular liaison with United Nations Headquarters and cooperated with the Departments concerned, as well as with the secretariats of the other regional commissions on projects of common interest.

C. Relations with other United Nations Programmes

6. The cooperation of the Commission and its secretariat in 1994/1995 with United Nations specialized agencies and other international organizations, as well as with their secretariats is described in document E/ECE/1319.

CHAPTER III

FIFTIETH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

A. Attendance and organization of work

7. The fiftieth session of the Commission was held from 3 to 11 April 1995. The Commission heard statements by the Chairman, a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, delivered and supported by remarks of the Director General of UNOG, and by the Executive Secretary.

8. The fiftieth session was attended by representatives from Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America.

9. The session was attended by representatives of the European Commission.

10. Representatives of the Holy See participated under article 8 of the Commission's terms of reference.

11. Representatives of Morocco participated under article 11 of the Commission's terms of reference.

12. Representatives of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the following specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations were in attendance: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); International Monetary Fund (IMF); International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD); Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

13. For discussion of the ECE cooperation with subregional groupings in the Programme and Coordination Segment, representatives of the Baltic Council of Ministers, the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, the Central European Initiative, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Council of Europe and the European Free Trade Association were in attendance.

14. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: International Chamber of Commerce (ICC); International Council of Women (ICW); International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW); World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA); Zonta International; Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW); International Council of Jewish Women (ICJW); Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF); World Federation of Methodist Women (WFMW).

15. A complete list of participants can be found in document E/ECE(50)/L.2.

B. Agenda

16. The Commission adopted its agenda (E/ECE/1309 and Corr.1) which read as follows:

1.	Adoption of the Agenda	
2.	Changing situation in the ECE region: review of economic reforms and major developments	
3.	Commission's activities designed to assist the integration of the countries in transition into the European and global economy, including promoting the expansion of trade for products from these countries in international markets	E/ECE/1310 E/ECE/1311
4.	Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Concluding Document of the Review Conference in Budapest, Hungary, as well as economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE	E/ECE/1312
5.	The contribution of ECE to the commemoration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations	E/ECE/1313
6.	The work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies:	
	(a) review of ECE activities since the forty-ninth session, including implementation of decision O (45) and decisions of the forty-ninth session	*/ E/ECE/1314 E/ECE/1315 E/ECE/1316 E/ECE/1317 E/ECE/1318

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Committee on Environmental Policy (first and special sessions)	ECE/CEP/1 and ECE/CEP/8
Inland Transport Committee (fifty-seventh session)	ECE/TRANS/111 and Add.1
Conference of European Statisticians (forty-second session)	ECE/CES/45 CES/830 + Adds
Committee on the Development of Trade (forty-third session)	ECE/TRADE/194
Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments (thirtieth session)	ECE/EC.AD/44 and Add.1
Committee on Energy (fourth session)	ECE/ENERGY/26
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology (twenty-first session)	ECE/SC.TECH/46
Working Party on the Chemical Industry (fourth session)	ECE/CHEM/98
Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation (thirteenth session)	ECE/ENG.AUT/54
Working Party on Standardization Policies (fourth session)	ECE/STAND/40
Working Party on Steel (fourth session)	ECE/STEEL/87
Committee on Agriculture (forty-fifth session)	ECE/AGRI/128
Timber Committee (fifty-second session)	ECE/TIM/83
Committee on Human Settlements (fifty-fifth session)	ECE/HBP/91

(b)	cooperation and coordination of activities with other international organizations and institutions and subregional groupings	E/ECE/1319
(c)	follow-up to the High-level Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women	E/ECE/RW/HLM/7 E/ECE/RW/HLM/8
(d)	resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly	E/ECE/1320
(e)	Commission's contribution and follow-up to the United Nations global programmes and to the Organization's programmes designed to assist developing countries of other regions	E/ECE/1321

7. ECE Programme of work: E/ECE/1322

   (a) Programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997

   (b) Medium-Term Plan for the period 1992-1997

8. Election of Officers

9. Other business

10. Annual Report of the Commission

C. Election of Officers

17. The Chairman of the fiftieth session of the Commission was Mr. Ludwik Dembinski (Poland), and the Vice-Chairmen were Mr. Ulrich Rosengarten (Germany), Mr. Romulus Neagu (Romania) and Mr. Christer Manhusen (Sweden).

18. Mr. Christian Manahl (Austria) and Mr. Jaroslav Stepanek (Czech Republic) were designated Rapporteurs by the Bureau.

19. At its tenth meeting the Commission elected by acclamation Mr. Romulus Neagu (Romania) Chairman of the fifty-first session. Mr. Lodewijk Willems (Belgium), Mr. Bjorn Skogmo (Norway) and Mr. Olexandre Slipchenko (Ukraine) were elected Vice-Chairmen of the fifty-first session.

D. Account of proceedings

Changing situation in the ECE region: review of economic reforms and major developments (agenda item 2)

20. The Commission considered this item together with item 4 - Activities of the ECE to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE/OSCE documents, including the Document of the Review Conference in Budapest, Hungary, as well as economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE.

21. Delegations welcomed Tajikistan as the 55th member of the Economic Commission for Europe and other new member States participating in the annual session for the first time.

22. Delegations observed that the rapid pace of political, economic and social change had continued within the ECE region during the past year and was still posing challenges to all Governments and international institutions, including the Economic Commission for Europe. Many delegations were of the opinion that these changes should not be construed as discouraging constraints but as a challenge to reinforce solidarity, develop partnership and promote peace and security which would contribute to the stability and economic development of the region as a whole. Many delegations stressed the support of their Governments for the role of the Commission as an efficient instrument for developing cooperation in the ECE region on an equal basis, having comparative advantages with other international organizations active in the region, taking into account its universal character.

23. Important changes in the scope and structure of regional cooperation were also noted. The European Union had been enlarged to comprise 15 Member States. The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe had succeeded the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. The World Trade Organization had come into being, succeeding the GATT. These events highlighted the importance of clearly defining the role of the ECE. Delegations drew attention to the fact that ECE's membership now covered all of Europe, the republics of CIS, as well as the United States, Canada and Israel, and that it remained an effective forum for facilitating a truly regional approach to economic matters of common interest.

24. A number of delegations drew attention to the conflicts in the region which continued despite the efforts of the international community to restore peace and stability and which threatened the transition process itself. Emphasizing the paramount importance they attached to securing peace and stability in the ECE region, delegations expressed the hope that a political solution could be found to the various conflicts in the region.

25. The representative of France, speaking on behalf of the European Union, indicated that the EU's priorities encompassed four principal objectives: to facilitate growth and employment, to promote security and stability in Europe, to make the assistance of Europe visible not only through its economic influence but also through the defence of the cultural diversity of the continent and finally, in the perspective of an enlarged Union, accepting countries of central and eastern Europe as new members which would entail the need for institutional reform.

26. In general delegations considered that the past year had not been an easy one. Although economic recovery had occurred in some parts of the ECE region, notably in the industrialized countries, it was not the case for all countries, particularly some countries in transition. It was noted that a degree of stability was now evident in a number of transition economies, especially those in central Europe. However, those which had begun the transition process more recently were still experiencing considerable difficulties.

27. Delegations from the economies in transition reported on recent economic, political and social developments in their countries in 1994 and the outlook for 1995, identifying at the same time economic problems confronting the region as a whole. They also described policy problems pertaining to their transition to market-oriented economies, as well as legislative, economic and restructuring measures which they had taken to pursue further the reform process. Some delegations referred to the difficulties of overcoming macro-economic imbalances and of making progress in structural reforms, including institution building. Given persistent obstacles and drawbacks, their need for investment, project financing and improved market access were

underlined as of paramount importance. The important role of western financial and technical assistance in supporting the reform process was stressed. Several reforming countries referred to their involvement in bilateral and multilateral programmes aimed at sharing their newly acquired experience in transition with countries just beginning reforms. These delegations expressed their determination to pursue market oriented reforms, aimed at their full integration into the European economic structures and into the world economy. A few delegations, stressing the importance of the problem of facilitation of access of goods of countries in transition to the international market as an important factor for the success of their ongoing economic reforms, underlined that the Commission should contribute to the political solution of this problem by giving it a political impetus.

28. One delegation underlined specifically his country's efforts to undertake and implement necessary reforms and projects in the infrastructural, administrative, legislative, social, financial, industrial, fiscal and other sectors, in order to bring the country closer to the requirements of the European Union's "acquis communautaire". These developments had to be seen in the context of the country's application to join the European Union.

29. Several delegations drew attention to external factors which hindered their economic development, such as natural ecological disasters and transportation blockades. Others stressed the negative impact which the observance of the United Nations embargo on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) was having on their economies. Two delegations pointed to the continuing severe environmental, social and health consequences of the Chernobyl accident. They stressed the need for additional technical and financial assistance and expressed their appreciation for the assistance and support provided by the international community.

30. One delegation discussed the particular situation it faced as a consequence of war. It estimated damages to its country at a level of US$ 20-22 billion. The occupation of part of its territory had resulted in the disruption of communications and the blockage of other economic and infrastructural activities and had caused enormous losses in liquidity. The number of refugees had increased and the cost of reconstruction and rehabilitation was high. It expressed its appreciation to the international community for its valuable assistance. Despite these difficulties, its Government had introduced a stabilization programme which was now giving favourable results. It felt that the ECE should consider ways of helping its member countries affected by war taking into account the resolutions adopted by the Security Council and General Assembly concerning its country.

31. Many delegations referred to the expanding integration processes taking place at the regional and sub-regional levels, where economic cooperation and free-trade agreements were being concluded among countries from all parts of the region. Mention was also made of the integration taking place between the economies in transition, the free trade agreements established between the Nordic and Baltic countries and the EEA, Switzerland and the countries in central and eastern Europe. A number of delegations expressed their intention to strengthen their ties with the "Visegrad Group", especially in the economic field through CEFTA mechanisms. Importance was also attached to the Central European Initiative and the Baltic Council of Ministers. A few delegations indicated their intention to develop good-neighbourly relations with their neighbours in the East. One delegation urged Governments to ensure that all these agreements, to the highest degree possible, be harmonized in order to promote the circulation of goods and services within the whole of Europe. It advocated the introduction of Pan-European rules of origin.

32. Some delegates cited the various initiatives and developments which had taken place during 1994 to foster cooperation in the Mediterranean region with other European, North African and the Near and Middle Eastern countries. Among other events, mention was made of the Europe-Mediterranean Partnership, initiated by the European Commission in October 1994 and endorsed by

the Essen European Council in December that year, involving partnership agreements with Mediterranean countries, leading to the preparations for the Euro-Mediterranean Conference to be held in November 1995 in Barcelona. One delegation drew attention to the Casablanca Declaration of November 1994 and the follow-up Summit to be held in Amman, Jordan, in November 1995. It noted that the General Assembly in its resolution 49/88 had called upon Member States to extend economic, financial and technical assistance to the countries in the region and it expressed the hope that ECE would attend the Summit.

33. The representative of the European Commission, speaking on behalf of the European Union, pointed to its relations with the economies in transition in many fields. He also stated the EU's intention to continue to cooperate with the EEA countries and with Switzerland in the development of political and economic relations. Several delegations reported on initiatives taken to prepare for their accession to the European Union. The representative of the European Commission also gave an overview of EU agreements with the countries in central Europe, the Russian Federation and the other Newly Independent States. It pointed out that agreements were now in force with six central European countries and similar association agreements were being negotiated with others aimed at the establishment of bilateral association agreements between each country. The establishment of free trade with the six countries had already made considerable progress. Since January 1995, practically all remaining import duties and quantitative restrictions on industrial imports from the associated countries had been abolished and the European Union had become the principal commercial partner of the associated countries. Partnership and cooperation agreements were being negotiated with CIS countries, with some already concluded, based on MFN Treatment. He reported that the G.24 coordinated assistance effort, for which the European Commission was the coordinating agency, had made available 74.7 billion ECU to the countries of central and eastern Europe since 1990. G-24 assistance was increasingly oriented towards investment, particularly in infrastructure. The representative of the European Community concluded by reviewing assistance provided under the PHARE and TACIS programmes of technical assistance.

34. One delegation drew attention to the "Support for Eastern European Democracies" (SEED) and the "Freedom Support Act" programmes of assistance to the Newly Independent States of the former Soviet Union. It announced that its Administration had requested a substantial budget increase for assistance to Central Europe and the Baltic States, of 480 million dollars. In the past four years, it had provided 4.68 billion dollars in assistance to the countries of the former Soviet Union. In addition to direct assistance, a key element of its Government's foreign policy was the building of a lasting commercial relationship with these countries. Moreover, its Generalized System of Preferences Programme had been extended to the majority of the Newly Independent States.

35. Another delegation reported that the assistance programme focused on institution-building, human resource development, trade and investment and policy advice to the countries in central and eastern Europe. Its assistance to the Russian Federation had been based on the principle of partnership and help for self-help. This delegation encouraged west European countries to continue providing assistance for the ongoing economic reform in Ukraine.

36. In considering the ECE study on "Ways and Means of Promoting the Expansion of Trade in Transition Economies", delegations found it an interesting contribution to their understanding of the issues. The representative of the European Union noted with satisfaction that the study highlighted the importance of dealing with all the constraints, internal and external, which affect the trade of the countries in transition and did not limit itself to specific aspects such as market access.

37. Another delegation concurred with the priorities for improving exports outlined in the report. It felt that the extension of preferential trade by western Europe to east European countries would

greatly assist their efforts to improve export performance. Moreover, it added that attracting foreign direct investment would be the key to stimulating trade and ensuring effective economic restructuring. Policy makers must address existing weaknesses in legislation and improve the consistency of regulations if FDI was to become a significant instrument of restructuring and a catalyst for trade. Delegations looked forward to the Round Table debate on "Promoting the expansion of trade of the countries in transition as an important function of the integration with the European and global economy".

38. Referring to the strategic importance of market access, some delegations cited continuing obstacles to trade and the susceptibility of their exports to tariff and non-tariff measures, particularly in the agricultural sector. They too welcomed the report on the Promotion of the Expansion of Trade for their countries and expressed the hope that the Commission would continue to analyse this significant issue in the future. They expressed their appreciation for the organization of the ECE Seminar for the Newly Independent and the Baltic States on the topic, organized prior to the session.

39. Many delegations welcomed the establishment of the World Trade Organization and viewed this as an important opportunity for the countries in transition to integrate themselves into the global trading system. Support was expressed for their efforts to accede to the WTO as it would oblige them to bring their trading practices into conformity with WTO standards. A number of delegations offered these countries technical support for the accession process. Many countries in transition reaffirmed their commitment to adapting their institutional and legal infrastructure to European standards and requirements in the long term. Some delegations suggested that ECE assist some of the Newly Independent States in their accession to the WTO.

40. Some delegations stressed the importance of making the most effective use of the Commission's limited resources, in view of the sharp increase in ECE membership and the need to avoid duplication with other fora. Many delegations affirmed that the five priority areas defined by decision O (45) remained valid for the Commission's work in 1995. On the other hand, a number of delegations stressed the importance of intensifying the ECE activities in such areas as energy, timber, human settlements, agriculture and industry and technology. In this context, one delegation stated that it would not oppose a fresh review of the priority activities, and recommended that the Executive Secretary consider such a review in conjunction with the Commission's fiftieth anniversary. Another delegation welcomed the political will to start a reconsideration of decision O (45).

41. Another delegation recalled its proposal to adopt the term "particularly important areas of work" to describe activities of importance to countries in transition. It was pleased to note that the Executive Secretary had pursued this idea when he presented his concept of "major orientations" of the future activities of the ECE. A few delegations proposed that the ECE should include the social dimension into its activities, especially in view of the recommendations to the regional commissions emanating from the Programme of Action adopted by the Cairo Conference on Population and Development and the World Summit for Social Development. Other delegations expressed support for the growing involvement of the business community in ECE work.

42. Several delegations stressed that any fundamental changes in the ECE work programme must be achieved within existing resources. To that end, it should continue its efforts to refine its comparative advantages, shed extraneous programmes, ensure that its work provided "added value", and demonstrate that it is the most appropriate forum to carry out the type of work it does and plans to do. The representative of the European Union expressed its regret that the informal working group to consider possible savings in the ECE programme of work proposed at the Ad Hoc

Informal Meeting in December had not yet been convened. It recommended that recourse to extra-budgetary funds should be provisional and limited in scope.

43. Two delegations addressed the issue of FAO withdrawal of resources from the Joint ECE/FAO Agriculture and Timber Division. One of these delegations expressed its interest in the ongoing consultations between the Executive Secretary and FAO over the future of the ECE's agricultural activities. Speaking of comparative advantages, it felt the work on the standardization of perishable produce should continue and it looked forward to the Executive-Secretary's proposals in that regard. Another delegation repeated the importance which its Government attached to ECE work in the field of agriculture and stressed the difficulties that would be caused for it and other Governments non members of FAO if ECE work in this area was brought to a close. It stressed the importance of continuing the activities of the Committee on Agriculture and maintaining within the ECE secretariat the Agriculture and Timber Division. It appealed to the secretariat to take all steps necessary to ensure that the work of the Committee on Agriculture be maintained.

44. Other delegations found it difficult for the Commission to carry out its activities within the present budget level, principally in view of its expanded tasks for assisting countries in transition. It was recalled that the December Ad Hoc Informal Meeting of the Commission had invited the Executive Secretary to undertake all necessary actions in this regard. These delegations supported the need for adequate resources corresponding to the increased membership of the ECE over the past years. One delegation remarked that in a situation of scarce budgetary resources, however, a redistribution of resources among the UN regional commissions combined with other measures proposed by the Executive Secretary could prove a viable alternative to a de facto budget increase to meet the needs of the new member States. One delegation suggested that further administrative savings could be made by observing more flexible and informal work practices. Another delegation felt that more economical use of resources could be achieved by reducing the length and frequency of meetings and the length and number of documents.

45. In the year ahead, one delegation indicated four areas where ECE could make the most effective use of its resources, namely, that the ECE should respond in the most efficient way to the needs of the countries in transition, within its current mandate and available resources; principal subsidiary bodies should ensure that their work programmes are meaningful to the transition countries; they should further coordinate their activities and work more synergistically; and finally cooperation with other UN agencies and with other regional organizations was essential. This delegation also expressed the wish to obtain a better understanding of the institutional and resource implications of ECE's global standard-setting work.

46. There was recognition that assistance to countries in transition was one of the major orientations of the Commission's work. Delegations supported ECE's continuing diversified programme to this end. They underlined the success of the Commission's seminars and workshops and the introduction of the Regional Advisory Services Programme. A number of delegations felt that the Commission should further diversify the forms and methods of its activities in the field of assistance to countries in transition and expand the scope of its assistance by devoting more attention to the Newly Independent States where the reform processes have not yet gathered momentum. Some delegations felt that the Commission could further facilitate the multilateral and bilateral flow of accumulated experience in the area of transition to these countries from those which are more advanced in reforming their political and economic systems. One delegation felt it would be helpful if the Commission would organize seminars for the Newly Independent States regarding the adaptation and harmonization of their legislation with international norms and standards. In discussing the Regional Advisory Services Programme, one delegation felt that more attention should be given to strengthening it financially in order to respond to the requests of the

countries in transition. Another delegation underlined that the regional advisers should possess a thorough knowledge of the specific conditions and requirements in countries.

47. While expressing their appreciation of the Economic Survey of Europe and Economic Bulletin for Europe, two delegations saw a need to include an analysis of the countries in the Transcaucasian region in these publications in the belief that country-specific analysis in the future would be helpful to member countries. They expressed their readiness to supply the relevant statistics.

48. Another delegation expressed its satisfaction that some of the statistical needs in this area were being covered by a regional project coordinated by the INFOSTAT in Bratislava. Yet another delegation emphasized the need to include statistical information on foreign investment in economies in transition. One delegation commended the exemplary work of the Conference of European Statisticians to redefine their programme of work, to improve coordination with other international organizations, particularly with the OECD and its initiative to include additional countries in its work.

49. In considering environmental cooperation within the framework of the ECE, it was noted that a key aspect had been the continuing development of international environmental law, which was further strengthened last year with the signature of the new sulphur protocol in Oslo, in June 1994. Attention was drawn to the forthcoming negotiations on strategies for the further reduction of the emissions of nitrogen oxides with the objective of developing a multi-pollutant/multi-effects protocol. Work for the protocols on persistent organic pollutants and on the control of emissions of heavy metals was also seen as important. One delegation encouraged those countries which had not yet ratified the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context to do so as rapidly as possible.

50. The same delegation reported on the preparations for the next Conference for Environment Ministers to be held in Sofia. One important theme for the Conference was the issue of strengthening financial mechanisms for promoting environmental investments in central and eastern Europe. It further pointed out that the submission of the draft Environmental Programme for Europe would also be an important item of the agenda. One chapter of the Programme dealt with sustainable consumption and production patterns in response to Agenda 21. In addition, it drew attention to progress made with the environmental performance reviews and expressed the hope that adequate resources would be provided for the further development of this work.

51. Numerous delegations underlined the vital importance of transport development in the ECE region in the context of the current economic and social changes. Specific reference was made to infrastructure and regulatory work. Two delegations noted the importance of transport assistance for the landlocked countries. Emphasis was placed on the development of integrated Pan- European transport systems, the Trans-European Motorway (TEM) and the Trans-European Railway (TER) Projects, on traffic safety information to young drivers and road users, with particular mention of the Second Road Traffic Week, and the need for coordinated international effort with respect to the development of electronic information systems installed in vehicles. Support was voiced for the convening of the ECE Conference on Transport and the Environment in 1996.

52. Delegations continued to attach great importance to work in the area of trade facilitation, notably the continuing development and global extension of UN/EDIFACT. Concerned about the possible delay in the introduction of the EDIFACT system in the countries in transition, one delegation expressed the hope that the joint activity developed between the East-European EDIFACT Board and the former EFTA countries could be maintained. Another delegation expressed its support for the "re-engineering" exercise undertaken by the Working Party on the Facilitation of International Trade Procedures (WP.4). It underlined that it was critical to maintain the momentum that had been

established to develop a more responsive organization, implement a new programme of work, achieve global inputs and recognize the efforts of those working on UN/EDIFACT world-wide. Furthermore, it strongly supported the principal conclusions of the recent WP.4 meeting, in particular the decision to establish three small committees to study the critical aspects of establishing a new body and empowering it to deliver trade facilitation and UN/EDIFACT to the global community. While agreeing upon the importance of the UN/EDIFACT activity, one delegation emphasized that the issues would have to be carefully considered by the Committee on the Development of Trade.

53. Support was also expressed for the Commission's work on the development of international trade and industrial cooperation. Some delegations recalled their support for the convening of a European Industrial Forum.

54. A number of delegations spoke of the importance of establishing close cooperation in the economic sphere between the ECE and the OSCE in order to put into practice the economic dimension of the all-European security system and to make full use of the ECE potential and expertise. They stressed the need to achieve complementarity and an effective division of labour between the two organizations. In this context, they deemed it essential that an agreement be concluded between the ECE and OSCE which would lay down a legal basis for their cooperation and determine more precisely the competences and the areas of such cooperation.

55. At its eleventh meeting, the Commission adopted its decision A (50) on the work of the Commission at its future activities (for the text see Chapter IV).

Round Table

56. Pursuant to decision C (49), the Executive Secretary organized a "Round Table" on "Promoting the Expansion of Trade of the Countries in Transition as an Important Function for the Integration with the European and Global Economy". Also in accordance with the decision, the secretariat had prepared a study in three parts entitled "Ways and Means of Promoting the Expansion of Trade in Transition Economies" (E/ECE/1311 and Adds.1 and 2).

57. The panellists in the Round Table were: Mr. John Maslen, Director for Relations with the Newly Independent States, of the European Commission; Mr. Misu Negritoiu, Principal Economic Adviser to the President of Romania; Mr. Alexandre Shokhin, Deputy of the State Duma and Former Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation; Mr. Jeffrey de Laurentis, Chairman of the Committee on the Development of Trade served as moderator. Mrs. Carol Cosgrove, Director of the Trade Division also participated. The three panellists spoke in their personal capacity.

58. Mr. Maslen commended the study and the emphasis on internal constraints rather than external factors. Commenting on the study's recommendations, he made the point that the core measures were ambitious and suggested that the word "Regional" in "Regional Action Programme" be removed, as the needs of the transition economies in trade extended beyond the European region. He agreed however with the specific recommendations for improving trade in the transition economies, and described the assistance in trade policy, customs procedures, accession to WTO and management training in trade for government officials and private companies, as part of the PHARE and TACIS programmes. He noted the recommendation to improve market access for transition economies based on market principles and real comparative advantages as well as proposals to improve access in agricultural products, once the CAP had been further reformed, as well as proposals to simplify anti-dumping procedures. However, he considered it would be unrealistic for the EU to conclude free trade agreements with the CIS States before 1998.

59. Mr. Negritoiu, agreeing with the emphasis the study placed on internal factors as a barrier to trade rather than market access, argued that the international community, including ECE, had a major role to play in assisting the transition economies to become reliable trading partners. As the main targets for international assistance, he identified the need to enhance the competitiveness of enterprises through restructuring and the raising of standards, along with the development of a proper system of payments and finance. He urged the Commission to devise effective follow-up measures to the study and more concrete projects which could build on the analysis it contained.

60. Noting its role as a leading creditor of the CIS countries, Mr. Shokhin argued that such a role placed an added burden on his country, preventing it from investing its trade surpluses in restructuring. He asked how ECE countries might assist the Russian Federation in undertaking this task. Describing current economic reforms and progress in international trading relations, he argued that these policies would have a positive effect on the trade of the Russian Federation while barriers to the exports of its high technology goods were resulting in its loss of badly needed revenues.

61. Mr. Shokhin agreed with the general diagnosis in the study of the problems facing the countries in transition in promoting the expansion of their foreign trade. He emphasized the role of macroeconomic stabilisation and noted that since October 1991 his Government had been successful in a number of areas of the stabilisation. Systematic trade surplus had been one of the most significant achievements of the Government's policy, as well as ways effectively to fight inflation. Its programme to reduce inflation to a monthly figure of 1-2% by the end of 1995 would make positive credit rates possible and would give an impetus to domestic investments and foreign trade. The total debt of the CIS countries to the Russian Federation was estimated to be about US$ 10 billion. The repayment of those credits would also boost investment opportunities of the Russian Federation. International organizations, including the ECE, the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, could contribute to this process within the areas of their respective competences. He argued in favour of improving access to Russian competitive goods and services, including the areas of telecommunication, nuclear fuel and the space programme, to the markets of the European Union. In his view, Russia's losses on that account amounted to about US$ 2 billion a year. He also referred to anti-dumping procedures of the European Union as another important obstacle to the access of Russia's goods and services and felt that the recently agreed consultation procedures would alleviate the current situation in this respect.

62. Mrs. Cosgrove outlined the main findings of the study, describing the primary source of problems of the transition economies in trade, the need to liberate the private sector and create a sound financial climate, and to improve the payments system and create trade institutions. She concluded with a report on the seminar on the same topic which had been held for the Newly Independent States and the Baltic Republics in Geneva, on 30 March 1995.

63. During the ensuing exchange of views between participants and panellists, the following issues were raised. The view was expressed that questions relating to the access of goods from the transition economies into western markets should not deal only with access to the market of the European Union and that enforcement of domestic trade reforms and the role of private organizations, like Chambers of Commerce, should receive greater emphasis. Some delegations believed the study's recommendations should be narrowed down in order to make them more achievable. Assistance to the CIS to revive their intraregional trade should not cause the old irrational links of the former command system to be re-established. Participants argued in favour of Asian NIS States receiving different trading concessions from the European Union than other members of the CIS. Caution was expressed that the transition economies, which are not members

of WTO or OECD, risk not being parties to negotiations on a new international code on international investment.

64. Noting the quality of the study, the meeting endorsed its recommendations in general and suggested that, after revision, it be disseminated to a wider audience through publication.

Commission's activities designed to assist the integration of the countries in transition into the European and global economy, including promoting the expansion of trade for products from these countries in international markets
(agenda item 3)

65. For consideration of this item the Commission had before it the Executive Secretary's note contained in document E/ECE/1310). A number of delegations expressed their appreciation for the activities of the ECE designed to assist the economies in transition, namely the programme of workshops and seminars and the regional advisory services programme. They noted the practical importance of ECE workshops, seminars and symposia dealing with such issues as privatization and transition to a market economy. They expressed their support for the programme of seminars and workshops for 1995-1996 and the wish that activities be expanded and coordinated with other international bodies and organizations, such as the European Union (EU), the World Trade Organization (WTO), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and the World Bank.

66. One delegation reiterated its support for the ECE programme of assistance to countries in transition and called upon these countries to identify their needs for assistance and to specify how ECE programmes can best be of assistance to them. It expressed the view that assistance to countries in transition should be progressively replaced by partnership relations between Western countries and these countries. In this way, the new possibilities opened by the process of transition would be of the greatest benefit for all States of the region.

67. One delegation expressed its gratitude to the donor countries contributing to the UN/ECE Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT) and expressed its wish that the ECE secretariat intensify its work aimed at attracting additional funds for the Trust Fund, from both governmental and non-governmental sources. While considering ECE activities for assistance to countries in transition generally well organized, it saw considerable scope for them to become more productive and diversified, in response to the needs of recipient countries.

68. A number of delegations pointed to the usefulness and positive results of the regional advisory services programme and confirmed their interest in advisory services in a number of specific areas. The idea was expressed that the regional advisers could assist the countries in transition by consulting them on questions relating to joining international agreements and organizations. A specific request was made for technical assistance in agriculture. Another delegation invited the Committee on Environmental Policy and the Committee on Human Settlements, in cooperation with the regional bureaux of UNEP and UNDP, to prepare for submission to the fifty-first session substantive and organizational ECE proposals for convening a regional conference on sustainable development of the countries in transition. This delegation would bring that proposal to the attention of the other member States at their next meeting, so that they would be in a position to take appropriate steps for the preparation of this Conference in a coordinated manner.

69. Three delegations indicated the need to improve the methods of work of the regional advisory services by updating and specifying the mandate and functions of the regional advisers and

by more effective planning of their activities. The need to intensify cooperation of the regional advisory services programme with those of other competent organizations and institutions as well as the private sectors was also mentioned.

70. Support was expressed for the efforts of the ECE secretariat, pursuant to decision B (49), to establish a list of experts and specialists in the process of privatization and of transition of different economic sectors to market conditions, whose services could be made available to interested countries in transition. One delegation requested that the list be finalized as soon as possible.

71. Another delegation regretted that document E/ECE/1310 did not contain more substantive suggestions for the diversification of forms and methods of work of the Commission commensurate with the importance that Governments attached to ECE programmes for assistance to countries in transition.

72. It was also suggested that ECE take an active part in the implementation of the decisions of the Cairo Conference on Population and Development and the Vienna Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women, with special attention to the needs of economies in transition.

73. One delegation requested the secretariat to explore the possibility of using the funds decentralized to ECE under Section 20 of the UN budget, to organize training courses for the countries in transition in their areas of interest. It also supported the intention of the secretariat to establish cooperation with the European Foundation for Management Development and the ILO Turin Centre in order to train specialists and prepare manuals on ECE activities, corresponding to the needs of the countries in transition. In particular, the areas of energy efficiency, natural gas and development of small and medium-sized enterprises were mentioned. Another delegation expressed its readiness to organize training activities for experts from the countries in transition, in accordance with decision D (49), if the necessary funds were made available, after the experience gained in South-East cooperation by hosting the workshops "Foreign Ministry in Transition" (1993) and "Computer Application in Diplomacy" (1994).

74. One delegation drew the Commission's attention to provisions of earlier Commission decisions on assistance to countries in transition, namely decisions B (46) and D (47), which had not yet been implemented. Particularly, reference was made to expert assessment of the programmes of assistance to countries in transition.

75. Another delegation emphasized the need to adhere to the principle of "demand driven" workshops and seminars and to avoid diverting resources from the regular programme of work. In this context it was proposed that the support of the private sector be sought.

76. The assistance of the ECE was sought in facilitating the process of accession of the countries in transition to WTO, by making available to them experience in the area of trade laws, harmonization and privatization.

77. The delegation of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia emphasized the detrimental consequences and enormous losses, as well as the long term negative structural impact caused by the blockade of the southern border, expressing concerns that the practice of unilateral illegal economic blockades could be of imperil for the landlocked countries worldwide.

78. The delegation of Greece, in its reply to a statement by The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, recalled that the General Assembly had admitted The Former Yugoslav Republic of

Macedonia into the United Nations under that title and insisted that the delegation of that State was not entitled to use any other name within United Nations fora. It also objected to the use of the term "blockade" to describe counter measures taken by its Government. It argued that these questions were of a political nature and had no place in the ECE.

79. The delegation of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, recalling the title of the agenda item under which it took the floor, reaffirmed its right to speak of matters of direct concern to the integration of its country into the European and global economy. It also stated that the inscription on the plate was just a technical reference with only temporary use within the UN system and that it would be using the constitutional name of its State. It went on to allude to the opinion of the Legal Department of the United Nations in the question of the right of sovereign States to determine how they designate themselves.

80. The delegation of Greece stated that it deemed it necessary to inform the meeting of the purely political character of the countermeasures and, concerning the use of the name The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia within the United Nations, it said that Security Council resolution 817/92 was very clear on that matter and proceeded to read the second operative paragraph of that resolution.

81. At its eleventh meeting, the Commission adopted its decision B (50) on diversification of forms and methods of the Commission's activities designed to assist countries of the region in transition to a market economy and their integration with the European and global economy (for the text see Chapter IV).

82. At its eleventh meeting, the Commission adopted its decision C (50) on strengthening of the ECE Regional Advisory Services Programme (for the text see Chapter IV).

Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Concluding Document of the Review Conference in Budapest, Hungary, as well as economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE (agenda item 4)

83. This item was discussed together with agenda item 2, "Changing situation in the ECE region: review of economic reforms and major developments". The Commission had before it the Executive Secretary's report contained in document E/ECE/1312.

84. Delegations expressed their appreciation for ECE's contribution to and participation in the CSCE Budapest Review Conference and Summit of October-December 1994, and for its readiness to play an active role in putting OSCE's economic dimension decisions into practice.

85. Member States also voiced support for the recognition and strengthening of the role of the ECE and other international organizations given by the Budapest Summit Declaration and the Budapest Decisions. They endorsed the involvement of the ECE in preparations for the Third Economic Forum. They noted that the subject matter of this year's Forum corresponded fully to the expertise and practical activities of the Commission. The enhancement of the cooperation of international organizations in the economic dimension of the OSCE, as embodied in the Budapest Document, was welcomed.

86. On this basis, ECE was encouraged to take an active part in improving the organization of the Economic Forum in order to improve the coordination and complementarity between OSCE and ECE.

87. One delegation suggested that the Economic Forum in future be held prior to the Annual Session of the ECE in order that the outcome of the Forum - in political as well as economic terms - be taken into account by ECE member States in determining the general orientation of the Commission and its programme of work.

88. Several delegations expressed the view that the valuable expertise of the ECE and its potential to contribute to the OSCE economic dimension would also assist the latter to fulfil its mandate for preventive diplomacy and conflict-prevention within its comprehensive approach to security.

89. Another delegation mentioned that the transformation of the CSCE into an organization opened the way for an agreement between ECE and OSCE as a legal basis for cooperation and a definition of the scope and areas of such cooperation. Reference was made to relevant United Nations General Assembly resolutions and the Framework Agreement on Cooperation and Coordination between the United Nations and the OSCE of 26 May 1993. One delegation proposed that special attention be paid by the Bureau of the Commission to the need to establish a partnership and working relations with OSCE. Concrete and well-defined proposals for such collaboration were invited by another delegation, and it was suggested by yet another that the ECE should lead the way with new objectives, priority-setting and implementation. Other delegations noted the satisfactory degree of flexible and pragmatic cooperation already taking place.

90. Some delegations also expressed support for economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE, noting that this was of interest not only for ECE member States, but for the entire Mediterranean region. In this context, and with reference to General Assembly resolution 49/88 and the Casablanca Declaration of 1 November 1994, one delegation urged the ECE to give consideration to its representation at the coming Amman Summit.

91. Some delegations highlighted initiatives and developments that took place during 1994 which were of direct interest to the countries in the Mediterranean region and which the ECE was invited to follow closely. One delegation believed that the ECE should act as a catalyst for South-East cooperation in areas of mutual interest between Mediterranean countries and countries in transition. The same delegation stressed that security in Europe was closely linked with security in the Mediterranean and recalled that this concept was reaffirmed by the CSCE Budapest Summit Declaration which also underlined the important role played by relevant organizations such as the ECE.

92. At its eleventh meeting, the Commission adopted its decision D (50) on economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (for the text see Chapter IV).

93. At its eleventh meeting, the Commission adopted its decision E (50) on cooperation and sustainable industrial development (for the text see Chapter IV).

Review of the economic situation in Europe

94. For consideration of this item the Commission had before it the pre-publication text of the Economic Survey of Europe in 1994-1995. Delegations reported on recent economic developments in their countries in 1994 and the outlook for 1995, identifying at the same time economic problems

confronting the region as a whole. In general, delegations agreed with the assessment of economic developments and prospects in the ECE region contained therein. Several delegations found the Survey too pessimistic, highlighting, in particular, the high degree of social and political consensus for reform, despite the impact of income reductions and uncertainty. The stabilization taking place and the validity of the underlying philosophy of reform were important factors here.

95. As regards the western industrialized countries, it was pointed out that economic growth was more robust in 1994 than had been forecast. A similar growth rate of GDP was expected in 1995, namely about 3%, with growth in western Europe projected to strengthen slightly, offsetting a slow-down in North America. The recovery in western Europe had been led by strong export growth, supported by increasingly buoyant fixed investment. Rates of inflation remained subdued against a background of moderate cost pressures. However, this favourable outlook was now slightly clouded by uncertainty over interest rates and exchange rates. Any threat to growth would weaken the prospects of reducing unemployment, which remained unacceptably high. In the United States, there was strong growth in both private consumption and fixed investment in 1994, and a notable rise in employment, but rising net imports were an increasing constraint on output growth.

96. There had been a marked improvement in economic performance in most of eastern Europe. In aggregate, east European GDP rose by just under 4% in 1994 - the first increase since 1989. But one of the most encouraging developments was a recovery of fixed investment (up 5% on average), with large increases in machinery and equipment - a sign that modernization and restructuring were underway, especially in Poland, Slovenia, the Czech Republic and Hungary. Another encouraging development was that east European exports rose some 18% in value in 1994, double the increase in imports. Their aggregate current account deficit more than halved, from $8.3 billion to $3.4 billion. Foreign exchange reserves had risen and debt burdens had fallen. However, inflows of foreign direct investment fell to $4.3 billion, from $5 billion in 1994. A major achievement had been a marked slow-down of inflation in nearly all countries in 1994, although it still remained too high for comfort: double-digit annual rates still prevailed in eastern Europe and getting them down to single-digits was proving difficult. Wage increases slowed down, but by less than inflation. However, there were large gains in productivity, and profit margins appeared to have risen: the latter supported investment which had so far been largely financed by enterprises' own resources. But labour market conditions were increasingly difficult. Employment had continued to fall, and unemployment remained high (between 10-20% of the labour force). Unemployment, with a large and growing proportion of young people and long-term unemployed, was now one of the pressing problems in most countries of eastern Europe.

97. GDP continued to fall in the Russian Federation last year by some 15%; there were even larger drops in most of the other CIS countries. Inflation fell sharply in the Russian Federation and Ukraine during most of 1994, but was picking up again in the autumn. It accelerated sharply in most of the other CIS countries. Unemployment rates were still low: this partly reflected statistical problems - but they were also the result of a lack of restructuring and hidden unemployment in State-owned enterprises. Trade of the Russian Federation remained in surplus, but the current account moved into a deficit of $2.8 billion, mainly because of payments of interest abroad and a much larger deficit on tourism.

98. The secretariat expected east European GDP to continue rising by about 4% in 1995, a slow-down in Hungary being offset by improvements in most of the other countries. In the Baltic States there now seemed to be a reasonable prospect of export-led growth in 1995, supported by foreign investment. In the Russian Federation and most of the other CIS countries, further declines in output seemed likely, although they should be less than last year. The outlook depended crucially on whether consistent stabilization and reform programmes could be introduced and maintained.

99. Several delegations provided information on inflows of FDI into their countries. Although some received more investment in 1994, in general the flows had been less than had been expected and less than some countries believe they need. It was recognized that FDI was not the only prerequisite for economic growth and industrial restructuring. Delegations agreed, however, that FDI was a complement to, not a substitute for, domestic investment and that priority was to be given to policies promoting an increase in domestic savings. The bulk of the resources for development had to be generated internally and this required the creation or reform of the transition economies' savings institutions and, more generally, of the financial sector.

100. The analysis of the implications of the Mexican crisis on the transition economies was noted by several delegations. It was agreed that their situations differed greatly from that of Mexico and, therefore, that in present conditions there was little chance of a similar crisis occurring in eastern Europe. However, one delegation drew attention to the fact that the inflow of short-term capital was complicating the conduct of monetary policy in his country. It was argued by some delegates that bad loans were only the visible part of a more extensive range of problems in the financial sector.

101. Some delegations drew attention to the improved usefulness of the Survey by the reintroduction of appendix tables, while others regretted the lack of government and other short-term forecasts in the Survey. The secretariat asked the delegations to provide it with their government forecasts, particularly those made in relation to IMF agreements.

102. Some delegations provided information on the economic situation in their countries or regions. Others stressed the need for more disaggregated analysis, based on monthly changes, to reflect better the structural change and the dynamic aspects of the transition process.

103. The late delivery of the Survey, due to resource limitations, was regretted by many delegations and several suggestions were made for improving matters, including the expanded use of electronic distribution of documents such as was already done by the Working Party on the Facilitation of International Trade Procedures, the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods of the Inland Transport Committee and the ECOSOC Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods. The secretariat assured delegates that these were under consideration by the Executive Secretary and would hopefully be implemented in the near future.

104. Two delegations made reference to the Executive Secretary's suggestion that resource constraints might entail the deletion of the section on western economies. They noted that this topic was covered extensively by the work of other organizations and thus supported its non-inclusion in the Survey in the future.

The contribution of ECE to the commemoration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations
(agenda item 5)

105. For consideration of this item the Commission had before it the Executive Secretary's report contained in document E/ECE/1313. The chairman drew attention to proposals for action contained in the report. He referred to the compendium of the contributions which the ECE had made to global programmes of the United Nations during its 48 years of existence which would serve as a basis for a publication to be entitled "Fifty Years of ECE" and would appear in time for the ECE Fiftieth Anniversary. He noted ECE's close cooperation with UNOG for commemorative events to be held in Geneva in July when the Secretary-General would preside over a special ceremony for the Fiftieth Anniversary. Reference was also made to the second Road Safety Week which was linked in many

countries to the United Nations' Fiftieth Anniversary as a practical application of what the UN through ECE was doing for the people of the region. The Chairman went on to speak of a special UN postage stamp requested by ECE for 1997 to commemorate its own anniversary.

106. Delegations recalled the special importance which the Secretary-General attached to the commemoration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations as was evident in his message to the session. They emphasized the historic character of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations. The hope was expressed that the occasion would be used to adapt the world organization to the profound changes and new challenges at the global and regional levels.

107. One delegation endorsed the hopes of the Secretary-General that the ECE would focus not only on the contribution it had made to the United Nations in the course of its long and rich history, but also on practical measures that would bring the work of the United Nations to the attention of the people of the region. Looking ahead to the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Commission in 1997, this delegation recommended that the occasion serve to adapt the Commission's priorities of activities to changing realities in the region and the world at large, paying special attention to needs and priorities of the development of countries in transition. It would also provide an opportunity to strengthen the Commission's cooperation with regional institutions and sub-regional groupings. It went on to propose that the jubilee session of the Commission be convened at a high level and culminate in the adoption of a declaration on future economic cooperation in the ECE region which could become a cornerstone of the Commission's future activities.

108. Another delegation voiced its satisfaction with the contribution of ECE to global programmes. Its outreach to other regions should be strengthened, particularly in the field of international conventions and standards. The full scope of the organs of the United Nations should be used to disseminate the results of the work of ECE at the global level.

109. The delegation of the host country outlined the calendar of events prepared by its authorities for the commemoration of the Fiftieth Anniversary. It drew special attention to the visit of the Secretary-General to Geneva in July, as well as events designed to raise the profile of the United Nations in the country as a whole.

The work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies
(agenda item 6)

110. The first meeting of the Programme and Coordination Segment focused on interaction among the various activities of the ECE programme of work which lend themselves to cross-sectoral cooperation, a more efficient concentration of resources and better coordinated programme delivery. For this debate the Commission had before it the Summary Document Addendum "Cross-sectoral activities involving other Principal Subsidiary Bodies" (E/ECE/1315/Add.1) and the Report of the Chairman on his consultations with the bureaux of the PSBs (E/ECE/1314).

111. The cross-sectoral review aimed at providing a forum for a freer debate among delegations, the chairpersons of the PSBs and the secretariat, on issues regarding a multidisciplinary approach within the Commission's work programme and in keeping with its priorities.

112. The Chairman made reference to his consultations with the bureaux of the PSBs in the course of the year. He referred to the common issues and recurrent themes that emerged from his consultations with the bureaux. He went on to introduce the major categories of cross-sectoral activities identified in the addendum to the Summary Document (see E/ECE/1315/Add.1, paras. 2-5).

113. The first category involved synergies revolving around environmental and general sustainable development activities. The second concerned statistics in all ECE sectors. A third category centred on current and potential trade-related synergies. The fourth category related to standardization and norm-setting.

114. Presentations were made by Chairpersons of the PSBs under the above-mentioned categories, beginning with environment-related topics. Under this topic, many existing synergies were referred to including cross-sectoral synergies between environment and transport, environment and energy, environment and agriculture, environment and timber, environment and industry and environment and human settlements, and environmental statistics.

115. The Chairman of the Committee on Environmental Policy noted that environmental issues intersected with virtually all economic sectors. Most delegations and chairpersons of PSBs cited environmental links in their activities.

116. One delegation warmly supported this cross-sectoral approach and commended the Committee on Environment Policy for having prepared a first analysis of bottlenecks and problems. It argued that the analysis could provide a basis for a fruitful dialogue between the CEP and other PSBs, which could resolve bottlenecks and promote more cross-sectoral approaches to sustainable development. Some delegations strongly supported the proposal to convene a meeting between the Bureaux of the Committee on Environmental Policy and other PSBs, with a view to exploring possibilities for future cooperation in the field of environment. A similar suggestion was made by the Vice-Chairman of the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology.

117. Some delegations welcomed the existing cooperation between the Committee on Environmental Policy and other PSBs. The Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics, the Energy Efficiency programme and the forthcoming Conference on Transport and the Environment were cited. A delegation stressed that the cross-sectoral approach to environmental issues should be further enhanced, since heightened economic activity in countries in transition could give rise to new environmental problems.

118. Some delegations also expressed their satisfaction with the activities of the "Environment for Europe" process which integrated environmental policy into other policies, such as those for human settlements.

119. Support was expressed for the activities carried out by the Committee on Human Settlements linked with other sectors. The importance of the Committee's work in assisting countries in transition and in promoting sustainable development was emphasized.

120. The Chairman of the Working Party on the Chemical Industry pointed out that a considerable part of the Working Party's activities were environmentally oriented, including the Regional Environmental Management Centre for the Chemical Industry established under the guidance of the ECE in Warsaw, the Pilot Project for the Environmental Clean-up of Selected Sites Polluted by Chemicals and the CHEMISEED programme, which was cross-sectoral in scope. It also mentioned trade aspects of the industry.

121. The Chairman of the Working Party on Steel drew attention to its activities with cross-sectoral implications, notably those related to the collection and analysis of statistics, the restructuring of the steel industry in countries in transition and environmental issues in the steel industry, in particular the recycling of scrap steel which also offered energy-savings.

122. The Chairperson of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation confirmed the Working Party's continuing focus on the priority areas of economic analysis, statistics and environmental protection carried out in cooperation with other PSBs and international organizations. It also provided assistance to engineering industries in transition countries.

123. The Chairman of the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology noted that science and technology were related to all areas of ECE activity, including statistics and assistance to the economies in transition. He drew attention to the new activity on the role of science and technology in securing sustainable development in the economies in transition, under which seminars and workshops would be organized.

124. One delegation pointed out that the development of international trade required the development of transport, including transit transport. At the same time, however, international transit traffic created environmental problems along main transit corridors. This was seen as an important issue for the experts of countries in transition. It recommended that due attention also be paid to transport problems in order to avoid interfering with trade.

125. Trade aspects of timber and forestry were also referred to, including environmental labelling and certification of traded timber which would be increasingly important in the late 1990s. It was noted by the Chairman of the Timber Committee that the highest priority had been attached to questions of sustainable management of the forest sector. Trade aspects were also becoming increasingly important in the discussion on sustainability. The inclusion of the work of the Timber Section under the Trade Division was therefore applauded. Energy links were also noted.

126. The Chairman of the Committee on the Development of Trade noted the close collaboration already existing between the Trade Division and the Agriculture and Timber Division in standardization and norm-setting and that further cooperation could be envisaged when the two units were merged in the standard-setting field for fresh agricultural products. One delegation stated that trade in agriculture was a particular priority in his country and welcomed continued work in this area.

127. The Chairman of the Committee on the Development of Trade noted that while some synergies should be encouraged, others should not. With reference to the proposals for work in the trade and environment area, he cautioned that the secretariat should concentrate on what it does best and allow other international organizations to pursue areas where they enjoy a comparative advantage.

128. One comparative advantage of ECE was highlighted by the Chairman of the Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures (WP.4) who noted that all EDIFACT standard messages were at the disposal of PSBs interested in the introduction of EDI in their activities.

129. The Chairman of the Committee on the Development of Trade also noted that, in terms of statistics, while the secretariat did not maintain trade statistics, it did maintain a data base on FDI in transition economies.

130. Delegates drew attention to the cross-sectoral nature of ECE work on statistics, noting that most PSBs used and generated statistics and issued recurrent statistical publications. It was noted that statistical activities were particularly important to economies in transition.

131. The Chairpersons of several PSBs reported that the statistically-related work carried out by different areas of the secretariat was conducted in cooperation with the ECE Statistical Division.

Mention was made of concerted efforts to coordinate data collection with other international organizations and institutions such as the OECD and Eurostat, with whom ECE already prepared a joint presentation of their programmes of work.

132. The Chairman of the Senior Economic Advisers pointed out that the secretariat provided economic analysis for a number of other subsidiary bodies as a basis for their respective studies, particularly the Committee on Environmental Policy. He went on to suggest two areas of potential synergies between the Senior Economic Advisers and the Committee on the Development of Trade which he considered insufficiently covered but which would become important, especially for countries in transition, namely social questions such as unemployment and social safety nets, and the opening of borders and markets.

133. The Chairman of the Committee on Energy noted that, since energy use was associated with all human activity, it was cross-sectoral by nature. Interdisciplinary work should therefore be reinforced, both within ECE and with other international organizations.

134. The Energy Efficiency 2000 Project was noted by one delegation as enhancing cooperation in environmentally-sound technologies and efficient management practices, in particular between economies in transition.

135. Another delegation appealed to the PSBs not to neglect the manifold consequences of the Chernobyl nuclear accident and to give due consideration to the question in all relevant sectors of work.

136. The European Union expressed its concern that the discussion on cross-sectoral issues was not the correct occasion for reflection on priorities. If they were to be discussed, it should be on a separate, appropriate occasion and in a fully transparent manner. The secretariat concurred with this view and gave assurances that any discussion of priorities would be part of a distinct and separate exercise. It reaffirmed that the intention of the present debate was to determine ways and means to promote synergies within the programme of work in order to optimize the use of resources.

137. Under agenda item 6, the Programme and Coordination Segment also discussed ECE cooperation with regional and subregional groupings with particular regard to activities designed to assist the countries in transition. For consideration of the item delegations had before them the report of the Executive Secretary contained in document E/ECE/1319 in which section C was devoted to existing ECE cooperation with subregional groupings in the fields of environment, transport, statistics, energy, trade and human settlements.

138. Attention was drawn to the emergence of a growing number of subregional groupings, most of which were composed of members of the ECE. To date the Commission had not discussed the matter nor for that matter had any other forum been established to consider their many activities and objectives. It was noted that the third meeting of the OSCE Economic Forum in June 1995 was to take up the topic and the present debate could provide a useful contribution to the Forum.

139. Representatives of the Baltic Council of Ministers, the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, the Central European Initiative, the Council of Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States, EFTA and the OSCE participated in the debate which was intended to provide an opportunity for the Commission to understand better the mandates, objectives and activities of the regional groupings and to help to identify ways and means of establishing closer cooperation between the regional groupings and the ECE.

140. The Representative of the Baltic Council of Ministers gave an account of the history of the founding and development of the Council and of cooperation between Governments and parliaments of the Baltic States. She described the coordinating role of the Baltic Cooperation Committee and the secretariat of the Council. She referred to the First Plan of Action of the Council which inter alia addressed the issues of the free movement of goods, services and persons, a customs union and standards.

141. The representative of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation gave an exhaustive account of the work of the Cooperation since its foundation. He referred to the many areas of activity which covered virtually all economic sectors. He spoke of progress made in particular in the field of telecommunications and of projected work in the building of transport networks.

142. The representative of the Commonwealth of Independent States described the agreements which it had recently signed with the secretariats of UNCTAD and UNESCO, and its participation in the recent ECE seminar for Newly Independent States. It expressed interest in closer cooperation with ECE and proposed that an agreement similar to that with UNCTAD be signed as a basis of such cooperation. He went on to propose that a Consultative Council of European regional organizations be established with an annual session to be held at the headquarters of each organization in turn.

143. The representative of the Council of Europe described the closer cooperation which the Parliamentary Assembly had recently established with the secretariat of the ECE. On the basis of a resolution adopted by the Assembly, an annual review of the work of ECE would be held similar to that carried out with OECD and EBRD. He went on to propose that a Joint Conference of the Parliamentary Assembly and ECE be held.

144. The coordinator of the Central European Initiative in one member country gave an account of the establishment of the Initiative and its expansion in recent years. He described areas of activities where members of the CEI looked forward to closer cooperation with the European Union, such as norms and standards in industry and agriculture, interconnection of energy networks, nuclear safety and waste management, environmental law and telecommunications. He also proposed closer cooperation with ECE in the project on the Central European Transport Information System.

145. The representative of EFTA gave an account of its relations with the European Union as a result of the evolution of the European Economic Area (EEA). In particular, he referred to possible cooperation in the field of monetary policy and a customs union. In describing EFTA cooperation with the countries of central and eastern Europe, he referred to free trade agreements designed to minimize trade discriminatory practices. He described this cooperation as offering a "fast track to membership of the European Union". He went on to describe EFTA global relations and its technical and economic cooperation for central and eastern Europe.

146. The representative of the OSCE spoke of preparations for the third meeting of the Economic Forum to be held in June 1995. He referred to the topics of trade, investment and infrastructure which comprised the draft agenda. He also described the enhanced role foreseen for international organizations, including the ECE, in the preparatory process. He spoke of the economic dimension of the OSCE which was to be integrated into considerations of security issues. Economic activity was intended to serve as preventive action or to alleviate security risks within the region.

147. Delegations welcomed the participation of the representatives of the subregional groupings in the debate and expressed appreciation for the statements and concrete proposals they had made. They noted the opportunities for new areas of cooperation between the ECE and the other regional organizations in fulfilling common interests. Noting that this was the beginning of a dialogue

between ECE and these organizations, several delegations expressed support for further meetings of this kind in the future.

148. Several delegations referred to their participation in the work of the regional groupings. Some noted the role of the Council of Europe in the forthcoming Sofia Conference of the "Environment for Europe" process and hoped that the Council would participate in the forthcoming Conference on Transport and Environment and Habitat II. General support for the presentation of ECE work to the Parliamentary Assembly was also expressed.

149. Delegations also gave strong support to closer ECE cooperation with the OSCE. Importance was attached to the role of ECE in the forthcoming Economic Forum. Several spoke of their cooperation within the framework of the CIS. Others expressed their appreciation for cooperation in the field of energy between ECE and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation.

150. One delegation spoke of its cooperation within the Economic Union of Central Asian States and other cooperative arrangements between those countries. It stressed the importance of such cooperation based upon mutual advantage and reliance and serving as an essential tool for a coordinated approach to development. It went on to describe its cooperation within the framework of ECO in areas of transport, telecommunications and environment.

151. Another delegation spoke of the role of regional organizations in security matters and regional conflicts. It underlined the difficulties it encountered as a result of the application of UN sanctions against one European country and called upon ECE to assist in alleviating these problems. It went on to refer to the work of the Inland Transport Committee and of ways in which more could be done to assist the countries in transition in that field.

152. Several delegations spoke of the need for greater coordination of activities between the various regional organizations. One delegation found the debate useful in providing a better view of the architecture of Europe and how the regional organizations interrelated. It concluded that there was a need for stricter programming between the organizations to ensure as little overlap as possible. It saw a need for priority setting in the way Governments implemented cooperation, looking at priority activities and specific needs which required fruitful cooperation leading to a usable product. It was not in favour of cooperation in terms of mere attendance at meetings. It suggested that the secretariat identify areas where cooperation would be most constructive, leading possibly to joint activities, and asked the secretariat to present its findings to the next Ad Hoc Informal Meeting in order that Governments might provide guidelines for the secretariat.

153. One delegation suggested that the possibility be considered to convene an intergovernmental group (body) which, together with the secretariats of organizations active in the region, could work out a framework for their cooperation.

154. Yet another delegation expressed the hope that future discussions would focus on common areas of interest which transcended organizational boundaries of the regional bodies. It also suggested that other groupings be invited, such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and the Organization of Islamic Conference, which included CIS, Mediterranean and European countries.

155. At its eleventh meeting, the Commission adopted its decision F (50) on strengthening of cooperation between the Economic Commission for Europe and the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe (for the text see Chapter IV).

Review of ECE activities since the forty-ninth session, including implementation of decision O (45) and decisions of the forty-ninth session (agenda item 6(a))

156. For discussion of this sub-item the Commission had before it the reports of the PSBs and the working parties reporting directly to the Commission, the Summary Document, the Report of the Chairman on his consultations with the Bureaux of PSBs, as well as the Executive Secretary's reports on cooperation in the field of environment and sustainable development, on cooperation in the field of transport and on cooperation in the field of human settlements.

Committee on Environmental Policy

157. Delegations reaffirmed the priority given to environment in the activities of the ECE. In this context the central role of the Committee on Environmental Policy was reaffirmed. A number of delegations praised the assistance received from the ECE regional advisory service in the field of environment.

158. Work related to the "Environment for Europe" process, environmental capacity-building of countries in transition and the strengthening of Conventions was commended.

159. One delegation voiced the need to pay increased attention to the improvement of financial mechanisms for environmental protection, in particular in central and eastern Europe, including the implementation of the burden-sharing principle.

160. Delegations welcomed progress made in the preparation of the forthcoming Sofia Ministerial Conference to be held in October 1995. They stressed that every effort should be made so that ministries of environment, finance and industry be represented at the Conference at a high level. The work of the Working Group of Senior Governmental Officials was highly appreciated, including preparation of the "Environment Programme for Europe". One delegation expressed the hope that the Conference would address recommendations to the financial institutions for soft loans for environmental protection in central and eastern Europe.

161. Delegations supported the work of the Committee with the OECD and that of the ECE to introduce the OECD-type of country environmental performance reviews to central and east European countries. The preparation by the ECE secretariat of the review for Estonia was particularly welcomed.

162. Delegations voiced their concern over the delays in the ratification of ECE Conventions and encouraged the Committee to promote rapid ratification and accession to these Conventions. Some delegations informed the Commission of progress in their ratification/accession process.

163. Some delegations invited the Committee to pay more attention to the provision of assistance to countries in transition for capacity-building purposes, to coordinate assistance provided by other international organizations and institutions to this end, and to the verification of compliance with the Conventions. One delegation stated its intention to provide further financial assistance for this purpose through TFACT.

164. One delegation suggested that sustainable consumption and production patterns and, against this background, the question of the environmental impact of some elements of international trade should be included in the work programme of the Committee. This latter project could be conducted in cooperation with the World Trade Organization.

165. At its eleventh meeting, the Commission adopted its decision G (50) on cooperation in the field of environment and sustainable development (for the text see Chapter IV).

Committee on Inland Transport

166. One delegation stressed the importance of the Second Pan-European Transport Conference in Crete (March 1994) for the further development of infrastructure networks contained in different ECE agreements. In particular, it expressed interest in the development of a strategic corridor for its transport system and underlined the assistance it needed in this respect.

167. Another delegation expressed the importance its Government attached to the question of standardization in the field of road and rail transport.

168. Yet another delegation expressed support for the ECE Regional Conference on Transport and Environment to be held in 1996 and stated that the outcome of the Conference should take the form of a legally binding agreement. Some other delegations expressed the opinion that the Conference should adopt "The Programme of the Joint Actions of the ECE Member Countries up to the Year 2006" as a final document which should be advisory in character.

169. Whilst two delegations expressed concern about the problems of navigation on the Danube as a result of UN sanctions against one European country, the European Union stated that this issue was not within the competence of the ECE.

170. At its eleventh meeting, the Commission adopted its decision H (50) on cooperation in the field of transport (for the text see Chapter IV).

Conference of European Statisticians

171. Delegations expressed satisfaction with the progress made by the Conference in coordinating its work in collaboration with Eurostat and OECD. Particular appreciation for this cooperation was expressed by delegations from transition countries.

172. The creation of a regional advisor post for statistics was also welcomed by transition countries, as was the increasing focus of the Conference on providing technical assistance to these countries. One delegation welcomed the establishment of the new UNDP-financed project to assist countries in transition in developing improved and more policy-relevant social and demographic statistics.

173. The important role played by statistics as an instrument for international and regional cooperation was mentioned by several delegations. Particular reference was made to the Conference's meetings on methodological issues, data processing and information technology, international comparisons as well as the contribution of the secretariat to publications and data analysis.

174. One delegation reminded the Commission that the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics which the Commission had adopted as decision C (47) had subsequently been adopted by the United Nations Statistical Commission in April 1994 as a guide for countries in other regions.

175. One delegation voiced concern about the length of time required to fill vacant posts in the secretariat. It considered this particularly unfortunate in view of the additional workload of the

secretariat, including collaboration with other regional bodies and collecting and processing data from the countries in transition.

Senior Economic Advisers

176. Delegations expressed their appreciation of the work accomplished by the Senior Economic Advisers. They stressed the usefulness of the synthesis of medium- and long-term projections prepared by the secretariat as background documentation for the discussion of medium-term perspectives by the Senior Economic Advisers during their meetings. They underlined the quality of the analytical work contained in the secretariat publications, particularly the Economic Survey of Europe and the Economic Bulletin for Europe, which were presented to and commented on by the Senior Economic Advisers during their annual session and the informal meeting organized prior to the session.

Committee on Energy

177. At its eleventh meeting, the Commission adopted its decision I (50) on cooperation in the field of energy (for the text see Chapter IV).

Committee on the Development of Trade

178. Several delegations expressed interest in the Committee's next study and panel discussion on "Ways of financing trade and investment in the economies in transition". In view of the success of the round-table during the fiftieth session, the Executive Secretary suggested that further work could be carried out as a follow-up to the study prepared in response to decision C (49) and be included in the Economic Survey of Europe and the Economic Bulletin for Europe.

179. One delegation proposed that the secretariat examine the experience of free-trade associations in Europe as first steps in the creation of a pan-European free-trade zone.

180. The representative of the OSCE informed delegates that the theme for the Economic Forum Meeting in Prague in June 1995 would be regional cooperation in trade, investment and infrastructure.

181. Some delegations expressed their support for the actual scope of activities carried out by the Committee on the Development of Trade (CDT), including its trade policy component. One delegation stressed the importance of keeping the integrity of CDT as a single ECE body dealing with the whole spectrum of trade-related issues, including trade facilitation. At the same time, in the context of the process of "re-engineering", this delegation did not exclude the possibility of modifying the CDT mandate while strengthening its trade policy aspects currently covered by the Working Party on International Contract Practices in Industry (WP.5).

182. Several delegations expressed their support for the valuable work of the Working Party on International Contract Practices in Industry. One delegation voiced concern about the delays in publishing its Guides and hoped that progress could be made in this area prior to the next meeting of the Working Party in November 1995.

183. The Chairman of the Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures (WP.4) reported on the progress made in the revision of its mandate and organizational structure. Three teams had been established to report to the WP.4 Bureau in June 1995 so that a definitive proposal could be submitted by the Bureau to the September 1995 session of WP.4.

184. Several delegations congratulated WP.4 on the progress it had made in its "re-engineering" exercise and its work on UN/EDIFACT standards and directories. They expressed the wish that the exercise continue to be carried out in a constructive manner and with as full a participation of member Governments as possible.

185. One delegation expressed its concern at the report of WP.4 on the "re-engineering" exercise, in the belief that it did not consider in sufficient detail the financial implications of the proposed re-organization of the Committee on the Development of Trade nor implications for the work of the Working Party on International Contract Practices in Industry, to which his Government attached great importance.

186. The Executive Secretary announced that a note on the use of UN/EDIFACT within the ECE would be prepared prior to the next session of the Commission.

Senior Advisers on Science and Technology

187. One delegation expressed its interest in exchanging views on the role of Governments in developing scientific and technological activities and potential, and welcomed the decision of the Senior Advisers to include in their work programme a new activity entitled "Role of science and technology in securing sustainable development of the economies in transition". It positively assessed the work of the Senior Advisers on the review of major changes in science and technology policies to be held every two years and suggested that these reviews contain recommendations on adjusting policies to market conditions.

Working Party on the Chemical Industry

188. One delegation stressed the importance its Government attached to sustainable development and in particular the CHEMISEED (Chemical Industry - Sustainable Economic and Ecological Development) programme. It also considered that a study on changing ownership in the chemical industry in the countries in transition and the Regional Environmental Management Centre for the Chemical Industry to be established in Warsaw would make valuable contributions to that region.

Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation

189. Two delegations underlined the importance of the Working Party's activities related to environmental issues, including low-waste technologies and new materials, and proposed to the Commission to endorse the recommendations of the thirteenth session of the Working Party to hold its sessions annually starting from 1995. The statistical work, undertaken in close cooperation with OECD and Eurostat, including annual reviews and seminars, was found most valuable for the economies in transition. The Commission recognized the publication Rehabilitation Engineering as a contribution to the World Summit for Social Development, held in March 1995.

Working Party on Standardization Policies

190. One delegation considered work on conformity assessment to be important and stressed the role of the Working Party in the coordination of international standardization activities. Since differences between laboratory accreditation systems could constitute non-tariff barriers to trade, the inclusion of work on metrology was most timely. Consideration could be given to extending the scope of the Working Party's activities beyond standards and regulations for products to cover also processes and services, such as tourism and banking.

191. The representative of the European Commission stressed the importance which the EU attached to the implementation of international standards through regional standards organizations. To that end, it had concluded agreements with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) and the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELAC).

Working Party on Steel

192. Several delegations attached importance to the programme of work of the Working Party. They noted that its sphere of influence extended beyond the ECE region. Particular support was expressed for the programme on metallurgy and ecology, including the seminars organized on the steel industry and recycling and on waste disposal in the steel industry, as well as efforts to harmonize national environmental legislation for steel. They also stressed the importance they attached to the Working Party's analysis of short-term developments and prospects in the steel industry and the world steel market. The Working Party was actively assisting the countries in transition through workshops on the restructuring of the steel industry and through a study on privatization and changing ownership in the industry for a conference on the subject to be held in 1996 in Moscow. Delegations commended the study on scrap utilization, the study on structural changes in consumption and trade in steel and the work achieved in cooperation with the World Bank, EBRD, IISI and the European Union on the Global Study of the Steel Industry in Europe and on opportunities for international cooperation in the steel industry.

Convening of a European Forum on Sustainable Industrial Development

193. Several delegations welcomed the report of the group of experts which met in October 1994 in response to decision A (49) to discuss the convening of a possible Forum. These delegations supported the convening of the Forum and recognized the benefits to be derived from developing common industrial policy objectives. Other delegations were of the opinion that ECE was not the right forum for such an activity. Delegations took note that a draft decision on cooperation and sustainable industrial development had been prepared for adoption at the fiftieth session.

Committee on Agriculture

194. Referring to the key issues presented in E/ECE/1315, the Executive Secretary explained the problem facing the Commission in the field of agriculture, in the light of the decision of the FAO Council to redeploy FAO resources away from the UN regional commissions. Consultations held with FAO to continue activities in timber had been successful. However, arrangements would be made within existing ECE resources to maintain without interruption work on standardization of perishable produce and agricultural statistics. As regards the ECE/FAO joint activities on agriculture and environment and the agri-food sector, it would not be possible to maintain the current work level.

195. The Executive Secretary stated his readiness to service the session of the Committee on Agriculture with the support of FAO. For the future, however, he stated that ECE would have difficulty in providing resources to service the Committee. He reiterated his earlier proposal to consider the merging of the Committee on Agriculture with the FAO European Commission on Agriculture. He indicated that the FAO Regional Representative for Europe had informed him that the Director General of FAO would favourably consider such a measure.

196. One delegation underlined the increasing importance of agriculture, especially for countries in transition. The activities of the Committee on farm restructuring, agricultural markets, environmental aspects and quality standards were of great benefit. It pointed out that ECE countries

which were not FAO members should not be excluded from intergovernmental cooperation in the field of agriculture in Europe. It was therefore essential to maintain ECE work in this area and to continue consultations with FAO for future cooperation.

197. The Commission of the European Communities expressed the strong wish that the work on standardization of perishable produce be maintained without any interruption. The question of merging the ECE and FAO bodies would need time for consultations among EU members and with the Director General of FAO.

Committee on Human Settlements

198. Support was expressed for the activities carried out by the Committee on Human Settlements towards its major strategic objectives, namely assistance to the transition process and promotion of sustainable human settlements development. Some delegations expressed their support for country profiles dealing with the role of the economic sector in housing and planning and a housing finance glossary, as well as workshops to provide assistance to countries in transition.

199. Two delegations expressed the view that ECE could make an important contribution to the preparation of the Habitat II Conference, the last of a series of major UN conferences on economic and social issues in this century. One delegation suggested that those parts of the outcome of Habitat II relevant to the ECE region should be reflected in the Medium-Term Plan to ensure follow-up action.

200. Given the role of the Committee in providing policy guidance and practical expertise in the field of human settlements, it was suggested that the Committee pursue cooperation with other subsidiary bodies for a Regional Plan of Action to promote the establishment and implementation of national, regional and international programmes in this field.

201. Support was expressed for subregional groups, in particular the Meeting of Experts on Human Settlements Problems in Southern Europe.

202. At its eleventh meeting, the Commission adopted its decision J (50) on cooperation in the field of human settlements (for the text see Chapter IV).

Cooperation and coordination of activities with other international organizations and institutions and subregional groupings
(agenda item 6(b))

203. For consideration of this sub-item, the Commission had before it the Executive Secretary's note contained in document E/ECE/1319. Delegations acknowledged that the significant political, economic and social changes under way in the ECE region and the world represented challenges for priority-setting in the work of all international institutions and organizations. These events underlined the importance of clearly defining the role of the ECE within this institutional context. The growth of regional organizations and groupings increased the need for international organizations, including the ECE, to avoid overlap and inefficient use of resources. It should capitalize instead on its comparative advantages and seek to achieve complementarity with other organizations. One delegation stressed that this approach would generate synergy in respective areas of competence, enhance the quality of work and foster mutual understanding. The establishment of regular contacts between the ECE and the Council of Europe was cited as a promising avenue in this direction.

204. Appreciation was expressed for the Commission's cooperation and coordination with the European Union and other international organizations and institutions such as the Council of Europe, OECD, OSCE and EBRD as well as with UN agencies and the other regional commissions. Several delegations encouraged ECE to establish closer relations with the WTO, the IMF and the World Bank.

205. A number of delegations commended the coordination of work carried out by the Conference of European Statisticians with Eurostat and OECD. Two delegations provided additional information on their statistical cooperation with the Commission. The appointment of regional advisers was viewed as a constructive way for ECE to avoid duplication with other organizations in providing technical assistance services.

206. Another delegation noted with concern that in the new division of labour between regional bodies, the regional commissions' achievements were not always taken into account. In this regard, it mentioned that the report "Our Global Neighbourhood", presented by the Commission on Global Governance to the World Economic Forum in Davos, did not take full account of the global dimension of certain ECE activities.

207. Many delegations referred to the evolution of cooperation between the OSCE and the ECE. They welcomed the recognition given by the Budapest Summit Declaration to the role of the ECE and other international organizations and the enhancement of the economic dimension in European security. They endorsed the active participation of the ECE in preparations for the third Economic Forum, particularly since the subjects to be discussed corresponded fully to the expertise and practical work of the Commission. A number of delegations stressed the need to improve cooperation between the ECE and the OSCE. One delegation favoured concluding an agreement between the ECE and the OSCE which would strengthen a legal basis for cooperation between the two organizations. In its opinion, ECE could make a valuable contribution to the implementation of the decisions taken by the CSCE Review Conference in Budapest.

208. Underlining that cooperation between organizations should produce practical and constructive results and not just attending each others' meetings, one delegation suggested that Governments identify projects or areas where cooperation would be most fruitful and had potential for innovative joint work programmes. It further requested the ECE to improve documentation on this subject by concentrating on the tangible results of its cooperation with other organizations.

209. The European Union expressed surprise at a number of value judgements contained in the documentation for the debate relating to the Union's cooperation with ECE on the European Energy Charter and the PHARE and TACIS Programmes and hoped that this would be corrected. It was pointed out by the Chairman that one of the documents in question, issued under his responsibility, merely reflected the views expressed by Bureau members in the course of his consultations with them and should not be seen as a value judgment of the Chairman or the secretariat.

Follow-up to the High-level Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women
(agenda item 6(c))

210. For consideration of this sub-item, the Commission had before it the report of the High-level Preparatory Meeting (E/ECE/RW/HLM/7) and the Regional Platform for Action (E/ECE/RW/HLM/8). Delegations congratulated ECE on the organization and successful outcome of the High-level Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women held in Vienna in October 1994.

211. Underlining the importance they attached to the follow-up to this Meeting, several delegations felt that Governments and the ECE should make every effort to integrate women's issues and gender perspectives into its mandate, in particular in the areas of statistics, economic analysis and in seminars and projects directed towards the countries in transition. The Commission should also cooperate with other regional organizations in seeking to emphasize the integration of gender perspectives in their work. One delegation encouraged the Chairpersons of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies actively to seek ways to integrate these perspectives into their work and envisage the creation of "new thinking" and awareness of women's issues, possibly along the lines of the concept of sustainable development. It was also essential to develop this awareness in the restructuring process underway in ECE member counties. It expressed its conviction that women's issues should not fall into oblivion once the Vienna meeting and the Beijing Conference were over. Another delegation recalled that the Vienna meeting had left unresolved the issue of integrating social issues into the Commission's mandate. It expressed the hope that the Regional Platform for Action would be adequately reflected in a final document of the Fourth World Conference on Women and would thus give the opportunity to the ECE to contribute to its implementation.

212. The European Union stated that, although it appreciated the active participation of the ECE in regional and global conferences, it could not accept, given the ECE's limited resources, this leading to the re-opening of a debate on a social mandate for the ECE.

213. One delegation stated that the implementation of the Regional Platform for Action was primarily a national responsibility. Nevertheless, regional initiatives, coordination, guidance and monitoring were needed. The role of the ECE in this respect would be important as its work related to the elaboration and dissemination of gender statistics, as well as cooperation and assistance in national implementation.

214. The representative of the ECE NGO Working Group stressed that the High-level Preparatory Meeting had been a landmark within the region. It expressed gratitude to Governments and the ECE for the success achieved in organizing the meeting as well as for the support provided to the parallel NGO Forum. Its success was demonstrated by the quality and comprehensive nature of the Regional Platform for Action adopted by consensus. It called upon Governments to make a commitment to the implementation of the Platform of Action. There was an urgent need for mainstreaming a gender perspective into all fields of ECE's activities, including gender-specific statistical systems, data and gender research. Special attention should be paid to the problems of poverty, illiteracy, social disintegration, poor health and nutrition, facing women in central and eastern Europe. It supported the proposal contained in the Platform for Action that an international NGO Centre be set up in central or eastern Europe to coordinate contacts between NGOs, Governments and the UN system. It called upon ECE Governments to establish global goals for resource mobilization.

Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly (agenda item 6(d))

215. For consideration of this sub-item, the Commission had before it the Executive Secretary's note contained in documents E/ECE/1320 and Add.1. Delegations expressed their appreciation of ECE's contribution to the Fourth World Conference on Women consistent with Assembly resolution 49/161 on the Implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. The Regional Platform for Action adopted at the ECE High-level Regional Preparatory Meeting was regarded as a valuable input to the World Conference.

216. One delegation considered that the second Road Safety Week organized under ECE auspices in 1995 constituted an important event, in particular for assisting member countries undergoing major changes in their traffic situation, and served as an ECE contribution to the Commemoration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations as called for in Assembly resolution 48/215.

217. Some delegations expressed their support for the strengthening and diversification of the Commission's activities intended to meet the needs of the countries with economies in transition, in accordance with Assembly resolution 49/106. In this context, appreciation was expressed for ECE's workshops, seminars and Regional Advisory Services Programme. The Commission was urged to continue to diversify and broaden the scope of these activities.

218. The European Union expressed its wish for a clarification of the mandate of the regional advisers, stressing that this activity should not alter the agreed distribution of resources within the regular budget.

219. Several delegations expressed their appreciation of ECE's follow-up activities to UNCED's Agenda 21, as called for in Assembly resolution 49/28 on dissemination of the Principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. In this regard, support was expressed for the convening of the Regional Conference on Transport and Environment in 1996. Progress made in the "Environment for Europe" process and on environmental performance reviews was also welcomed.

220. Some delegations called upon the ECE to give full and active support to the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development held in Cairo in September 1994 as stipulated in Assembly resolution 49/128 on the report of the Conference.

221. Stressing the importance it accorded to sustainable industrial development in accordance with Assembly resolution 49/108 on sustainable development and international economic cooperation: industrial development cooperation, one delegation drew attention to the Commission's work on the chemical industry programme CHEMISEED. Some delegations supported the convening of a European Forum on Sustainable Industrial Development. Other delegations drew attention to the Commission decision to convene a Round Table Conference on the topic at its fifty-first session.

222. One delegation called for the continuation of international financial and technical assistance for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of its war torn zones. It expressed the hope that ECE would contribute to the international cooperation for assistance, not only for its country, but for other countries affected by conflict in the region. It noted that Assembly resolution 49/21, Section G, on international cooperation and assistance to alleviate the consequences of war in Croatia and to facilitate its recovery, was the third in a series of resolutions adopted on this topic by the General Assembly. The present resolution differed from the previous two in that it called for the initiation of actions and committed the UN Secretary General to concrete steps. It pointed out that all three resolutions bore on the work of regional organizations, such as the ECE. Other delegations stressed the fact that such activities would go beyond the existing ECE mandate and that the Commission had no resources to accord as financial assistance to individual member countries.

223. Two land-locked countries underscored their need to receive technical support to improve transport in their countries in order to enhance their overall socio-economic development. They looked to ECE for assistance in accordance with operative paragraph 1 of Assembly resolution 49/102 on transit environment in the land-locked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours.

224. In accordance with the relevant provisions of Assembly resolution 49/13 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, delegations noted with satisfaction that the CSCE Budapest Review Conference had reaffirmed the importance of the comprehensive concept of security which forms the basis for the renamed OSCE's work to ensure peace, security and stability in the region. The Conference recognized that the market economy and sustainable economic development are integral parts of this concept and welcomed the role played by the ECE and other international organizations in the OSCE's economic dimension. Delegations fully supported ECE's contribution to the forthcoming Economic Forum on topics within its competence.

225. Some delegations voiced the need to strengthen dialogue and cooperation among countries in the Mediterranean region by developing activities that foster stability and peace in the region. Appreciation was expressed for the activities carried out within the ECE and new initiatives undertaken by the Executive Secretary to enhance cooperation among the Mediterranean countries, in accordance with Assembly resolution 49/81 on strengthening security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region.

226. One delegation drew attention to Assembly Resolution 48/88 on the Middle East peace process which welcomed the Casablanca Declaration and called upon all member States to extend economic, financial and technical assistance to parties in the region. It encouraged the Commission to take a decision on its representation at the forthcoming Amman Summit to be held in Amman, Jordan in November 1995.

227. Emphasizing the importance of receiving strong support for the preparations for the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) to be held in Istanbul, Turkey in 1996, one delegation urged ECE Governments to support the preparatory process in order to ensure an outcome for the Conference as envisaged in Assembly resolution 47/180. Another delegation expressed its satisfaction that the Committee on Human Settlements had defined its contribution to the Conference as a separate element of its programme of work as called for in Assembly resolution 49/109 on Habitat II.

228. One delegation called upon the ECE to implement the relevant provisions of Assembly resolution 49/99 on international trade and development.

Commission's contribution and follow-up to the United Nations global programmes and to the Organization's programmes designed to assist developing countries of other regions
(agenda item 6(e))

229. For consideration of this sub-item, the Commission had before it the Executive Secretary's note contained in document E/ECE/1321. Delegations noted with appreciation the Commission's contribution to the preparations of United Nations global conferences such as the Fourth World Conference on Women, the World Social Summit for Development, the International Conference on Population and Development and Habitat II. Several delegations mentioned areas where they hoped the ECE would continue to follow-up on the recommendations and platforms of action emanating from these global conferences.

230. Some delegations felt that the ECE should undertake work in social areas in response to the recommendations of the Social Summit for Development, the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women and the Cairo Conference on Population and Development. The European Union expressed the view that follow-up activities should be limited to activities within the

Commission's mandate. Another delegation recalled that specific mechanisms had been adopted by the General Assembly and lead agencies designated to ensure follow-up to the global conferences. It suggested therefore that these mechanisms should be allowed to reach their conclusions. At that time, the Commission could best determine what contribution to make.

231. One delegation expressed its concern that the global dimension of the Commission's work was sometimes overlooked. It therefore encouraged the Commission to participate in the global network of assistance to sub-regional groupings.

232. Affirming the importance they attached to work in the field of human settlements, two delegations advocated a cross-sectoral approach to work in this area. One delegation drew attention to this year's decision which defined the orientation of future work in this field and which it believed would constitute a valuable contribution to the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II).

233. Another delegation felt that the Commission's planned contribution to Habitat II remained modest. It encouraged the Commission to affirm its role in the regional Habitat II process by defining its contribution as a distinct element of its revised medium-term work plan, as well as integrating the cross-sectoral aspects of the work on human settlements into the work plans of its main subsidiary bodies. It further suggested that the conclusions of the ECE Preparatory Meeting for Habitat II be used as guidelines in this effort. It expressed its conviction that the ECE was probably the best endowed organization to tackle the problems faced by the countries in transition on sustainable human settlements issues. To add value to this work, it maintained that the Commission should give higher priority to the needs of the CIS countries.

234. The representative of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (UNCHS) reported on national preparations for Habitat II. Although several ECE member countries had indicated interest and some had already made contributions, only eight had established national committees so far. Eleven countries were in the process of establishing committees and progress reports had been received from ten countries. He appealed to all ECE Governments which had yet to establish national committees, to do so. He also urged them to submit progress reports on national preparations for the Conference.

235. The representative of the International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW), an NGO, underlined the need to understand better the interface between economic and social development and to support countries in transition. In this context the Council provided information on meetings it had sponsored at the NGO Forum at the World Summit for Social Development on this topic. It noted with appreciation that the ECE had given a presentation on recent economic and demographic developments in the region, with particular emphasis on sustainable recovery for the transition slump, demographic responses to transition, refugees, population aging and implications, unemployment trends and the social safety nets. It believed that cooperation between non-governmental organizations, international institutions and the private sectors was essential in dealing with economic and social problems affecting the ECE region. It called upon the ECE to set up a working committee comprising these three sectors to support the integration of social and economic development in countries in transition and the development of non-governmental organizations.

ECE programme of work for 1995-1999
(agenda item 7)

236. Two delegations welcomed the decisions of the Executive Secretary to redeploy resources from lesser to higher priority programme activities, to provide greater transparency and to make

savings by the use of more informal work methods. While understanding the ECE arguments in favour of additional resources in terms of increased membership, they stressed the importance for the UN system as a whole of the concept of zero budget growth.

237. It was stated that the ECE budget could not be seen in isolation. Other institutions were mandated to assist countries in transition. At the same time there were considerable bilateral aid flows. ECE was encouraged to continue to focus on the five priority areas, where it had a critical mass, and to reduce administrative overhead costs. Such an approach would result in a more efficient ECE which should continue to review its programme of work to identify areas where resources could be released to undertake new activities.

238. Another delegation regretted the absence of documentation on the ECE 1996-1997 budget which limited the possibilities of Governments to take programme decisions with budgetary consequences. It reaffirmed its view that the principle of a zero real growth should apply to the UN regular budget as a whole rather than to individual programmes, in particular ECE. It was in favour of a redeployment of resources from other UN programmes to ECE. It also urged the secretariat to seek resources for ECE from the private sector.

239. Another delegation expressed its support, in principle, for the programme of work contained in document E/ECE/1322. It asked that the secretariat submit to the first Ad Hoc Informal Meeting after the session the text of the programme of work of the Commission itself to be completed after the session. It also expected that the programme would be completed by the decisions to be adopted at the closing session, including that on cooperation in the field of human settlements.

240. Another delegation underlined the need for a more thorough debate at the annual session on management issues to enable the Governments to provide guidelines for the secretariat. It proposed that the next Ad Hoc Informal Meeting take up the question of policy guidance for the secretariat.

241. One delegation recognized the serious budget constraints of the ECE which complicated the task of setting priorities. It urged however that by considering priorities within each sector it might prove possible to meet the expectations of all member Governments. In this connection it mentioned a number of areas to which its Government attached importance in transport, environment, statistics, energy and the regional advisory services programme.

242. Yet another delegation expressed the view that although zero budget growth sounded rational, it did not respond to the very serious realities of the ECE region. It referred to the needs of the transition countries and to war torn zones. Thus while appreciating the arguments in favour of budget restraint and transparency, it appealed for flexibility and not closing one's eyes to the needs of the transition countries. While it was appropriate to call upon the secretariat to organize better its work and the use of resources, there was a need for a flexible approach to budgets and new forms of financing specific activities and the programme of work.

243. The European Union expressed regret that there had not been sufficient time to discuss the programme of work. It hoped it would be possible for delegations to know what were the ECE budget proposals to Headquarters without infringing upon the mandates of legislative bodies at Headquarters. It also asked that the financial implications of the decisions to be adopted at the closing session be made known by the secretariat before their adoption.

244. The Commission adopted its programme of work for 1995-1996 and endorsed, in principle, subject to review at its fifty-first session, the programme of work for 1995-1999. It also heard an explanation of the new form and procedures to be introduced for the new Medium-Term Plan for the

period 1998-2002 and the timetable for consultations with the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.

Other business
(agenda item 9)

245. The Executive Secretary informed the Commission that the tentative date for the holding of the fifty-first session of the Commission in Geneva was 15-23 April 1996. Pursuant to ECOSOC resolution 1894 (LVII), the provisional agenda for the fifty-first session would be along the same basic lines as this year's agenda. However the processes of change and integration, as well as conflicts, under way in the region might well give rise to new initiatives to be taken up in the framework of ECE. He also took note of the Commission's intention to initiate a further review of its programme of work in the coming months. He stated his intention to make full use of established ECE procedures in consultation with the Bureau of the Commission, and the deliberations of the Ad Hoc Informal Meetings of the Commission, to ensure that Commission members would be fully involved in the shaping of the agenda in good time.

Adoption of decisions

246. At its eleventh meeting the Commission adopted ten decisions. The full texts of all decisions adopted are contained in Chapter IV.

247. One delegation, in connection with the decision on economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, encouraged participation, especially by the business sector, in the forthcoming Amman Conference which it hoped would lead to the strengthening of cooperation in that region.

248. One delegation referred to the special needs of war-torn countries and expressed the hope that these would be taken into account in considering assistance which might be provided both through the work of the Commission's subsidiary bodies and other organs of the United Nations.

249. Noting that vacant posts in the secretariat for work on energy had been filled, it was agreed to remove reference to this in the decision on cooperation in the field of energy.

250. The Executive Secretary underlined the importance of the reference in the decision on cooperation in the field of transport to agree upon the date and venue of the Regional Conference on Transport and Environment to be held in 1996. While reiterating his readiness to continue to provide support for the preparatory work for the Conference within existing resources, he called upon member Governments to provide financial support for the Conference. He also referred to the request addressed to him in the decision to provide additional secretariat resources for transport and sought the advice of member Governments as to from where he was to take these resources.

Adoption of the Annual Report of the Commission
(agenda item 10)

251. A number of amendments to the draft report were introduced by the rapporteurs.

252. One delegation referred to matters identified in the Summary Document (E/ECE/1315) which required decision by the Commission and on which the session had taken no action. It proposed that these matters be raised at the forthcoming Ad Hoc Informal Meeting. It went on to propose

that in future these matters be highlighted in the documentation for the session in line with earlier decisions of the Commission in order that they receive due attention.

253. Two delegations referred to the inconsistency in the report in naming delegations. Mention was made of the long-standing United Nations policy to use generic language rather than the specific naming of delegations. It was proposed that, as of the fifty-first session of the Commission, either all delegations or none be named. It was agreed that the Chairman would consult member Governments on the issue and that a decision would be taken prior to the Commission's fifty-first session.

254. With a view to greater transparency, one delegation recommended that the secretariat provide information concerning the distribution of resources to the various sections of the programme of work in order that the Commission might better understand that resources are being assigned as appropriate to the priority areas of work.

255. At its eleventh meeting, on 11 April 1995, the Commission adopted its report covering the period from 27 April 1994 to 11 April 1995.

CHAPTER IV

DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE FIFTIETH SESSION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

A (50) THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION AND ITS FUTURE ACTIVITIES

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Conscious of the important role of the ECE as an instrument for the implementation of the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter at the regional level,

Emphasizing the importance of the Charter of Paris for a New Europe, the Budapest Summit Declaration "Towards a genuine partnership in a new era" and the documents of other relevant meetings of the OSCE in particular the documents of the Bonn Conference on Economic Cooperation and having in mind that these documents also contain recommendations directed towards the future work of the Commission,

Taking note of the Summary Document prepared by the secretariat (E/ECE/1315), the report of the Chairman of the Commission on his consultations with the officers of the Subsidiary Bodies (E/ECE/1314) and the Executive Secretary's note on the programme of work for 1995-1999 and taking into account decision P (45) taken by its forty-fifth resumed annual session and the ECE budget for the 1994-1995 biennium approved by the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly and the Medium-Term Plan for the period 1993-1997,

Taking note of the endorsement by General Assembly Resolution 49/128 of the Programme of Action adopted by the International Conference on Population and Development,

Reaffirming its decision L (48) on "preparation for and organization of the Annual Session" and M (48) on "Amendment of the rules of procedures of the ECE",

Recalling its decision E (49) in particular its operative paragraph 5 inviting the Executive Secretary to initiate preparation for the fiftieth anniversary of the creation of the Economic Commission for Europe to be commemorated in 1997,

Noting the desirability to encourage a synergetic approach among and between ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies taking into account scarce budgetary resources,

1. Reaffirms its determination to continue to implement decisions O (45) and P (45) of the forty-fifth resumed session, requests its subsidiary bodies to continue to carry out the provisions of decision O (45) when reviewing and carrying out their programmes of work, and further requests the Executive Secretary to continue to implement the provisions and recommendations contained in decisions O (45) and P (45) where the work of the secretariat is concerned and to report to the fifty-first session of the Commission;

2. Approves its programme of work for 1995-1996 and endorses, in principle, subject to review at its fifty-first session, its programme of work for 1995-1999;

3. Notes with appreciation the Executive Secretary's note (E/ECE/1320) on the implications of Resolutions of the General Assembly and of ECOSOC for the work of the UN/ECE,

including General Assembly Resolutions 47/166 of 18 December 1992, 48/204 of 19 November 1993 and 49/21G of 20 December 1994 on international cooperation and assistance to alleviate the consequences of war in Croatia and to facilitate its recovery and invites him to study possible action within the ECE mandate, within existing resources and without prejudice to the existing ECE programmes on these resolutions as well as contribution to global programmes of the United Nations including forthcoming or recent global Conferences or international years in particular to the follow-up at the regional level of the Fourth World Conference on Women and requests the Executive Secretary to bring the work of the Commission to the attention of the Secretary General;

4. Invites the Executive Secretary, within the ECE mandate, to continue ECE work in the field of population, focusing on the ICPD Programme of Action and the implementation of its follow-up activities at the regional level, paying special attention to the problems of countries in transition;

5. Takes note with appreciation of the Summary Document prepared by the secretariat (E/ECE/1315) and the report of the Chairman of the Commission on his consultations with the bureau of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies (E/ECE/1314);

6. Stresses the importance of continuing policies aimed at the further liberalization and expansion of trade, including market access, among western countries and countries in transition, reducing the remaining constraints to trade among the countries of the ECE region, improving the competitiveness of the exports of the countries in transition as well as facilitating their integration in the international trading system;

7. Takes note of the study prepared by the secretariat (E/ECE/1311) containing recommendations on ways and means of promoting the expansion of trade of countries in transition, as requested in operative paragraph 2 of decision C (49), welcomes the round table discussion which took place during its session on "Promoting the expansion of trade of the countries in transition as an important factor of their integration with the European and global economy" and invites the Committee on the Development of Trade and other Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned to continue their work, as appropriate and within their mandate, on issues of promotion of the expansion of trade of countries in transition including improvements in market access and in market competitiveness taking into account the framework created by the Uruguay Round and the World Trade Organization;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary to bring to the attention of the UN Secretary General the need to provide resources necessary to fulfil its mandate taking into account a considerable increase of the membership of the Commission from 34 to 55 countries and the realization of the ECE programme of assistance to countries in transition, to take urgent action to fill the professional vacancies and invites him to provide regular information on the deployment of resources both under the regular budget and from extra-budgetary contributions to Permanent Missions in Geneva and to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies;

9. Urges the UN Secretary General, taking into account the Commission's resolution 1 (1992-S) in restructuring the UN Secretariat to consider the possibility of further strengthening of the Commission;

10. Requests its Principal Subsidiary Bodies to consider measures aimed at rationalization of their proceedings, including, in particular, the procedure of adoption of their reports with the view to making optimal use of available resources;

11. Invites the Executive Secretary to explore ways and means to increase the visibility and the outside perception of the activities of the ECE and to present information to the forthcoming Ad Hoc informal sessions of the Commission;

12. Stresses the importance of establishing close cooperation with the Council of Europe and its Parliamentary Assembly and invites the Executive Secretary to undertake steps to this end;

13. Decides to convene its fifty-second jubilee session in 1997 at high level with the view to adopting a Declaration on strengthening of economic cooperation in Europe which would define strategic directions of future activities of the ECE reflecting new realities in the ECE region and taking into account the needs and priorities of economic development of the countries in transition as well as the budget capacity and possible recommendations of the ECE ad hoc meeting on savings;

14. Stresses the importance of continuation of the activities of the Committee on Agriculture and invites the Executive Secretary to undertake additional steps with the FAO Secretariat aimed at a temporary preservation of part of the posts in the Agriculture and Timber Division financed by FAO;

15. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit this decision as well as other decisions of this session, together with the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned and requests them to take these into account in their work and when reviewing their respective programmes.

11th meeting
11 April 1995
(see para. 55 above)

B (50) DIVERSIFICATION OF FORMS AND METHODS OF THE COMMISSION'S ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO ASSIST COUNTRIES OF THE REGION IN TRANSITION TO A MARKET ECONOMY AND THEIR INTEGRATION WITH THE EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL ECONOMY

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 48/181 and 49/106 on integration of the economies in transition into the world economy,

Reaffirming its decisions B (48) and B (49) and other relevant decisions,

Mindful of the valuable role of the ECE in assisting the countries in transition in particular through the programme of workshops, seminars and other similar informal activities on transition issues organized under the ECE auspices,

Acknowledging the importance of further diversification of forms and methods of the Commission's activities designed to assist countries in transition to a market economy and their integration with the European and global economy,

1. Takes note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the ECE activities designed to assist countries in transition (E/ECE/1310) and commends various proposals contained therein on intensification of the Commission's activities designed to assist countries in transition;

2. Takes note with satisfaction of the establishment by the secretariat of a preliminary list of experts and specialists in the problems of privatization and transition of different sectors of economy to market conditions, whose services could be provided to interested countries in transition, including advisory and invites the secretariat to finalize the list by the end of 1995;

3. Recommends that the Executive Secretary in consultation with the UNDP, EBRD, OECD, the World Bank and other institutions and organizations explore the possibility of establishing in one of the interested countries in transition and with financial support of these organizations and institutions of training courses in the matters of market economy for the representatives of administration and business community of the countries in transition;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary in consultation with UNDP, EBRD and the World Bank to study the feasibility of cooperation with ECE in data collection and data sharing on foreign direct investment projects in the countries in transition;

5. Confirms the importance of continuing the programme of workshops and seminars which proved to be of practical importance to the countries in transition;

6. Decides, through the Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT), to continue to provide financial assistance to the countries in transition for their participation in the ECE programme of workshops and seminars and invites Governments of the member countries, relevant international organizations and institutions as well as other potential donors to make contributions to the Fund to finance the programme of workshops, seminars and other forms of activities on transition issues organized under the ECE auspices;

7. Recommends also to the United Nations Secretary General to consider the possibility of using ECE as a focal point of facilitating within the framework of the appropriate arrangements to be made within the United Nations Secretariat the promotion and enhancing of mutual cooperation with UN global programmes, organs and specialized agencies and within their respective mandates;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the fifty-first session of the Commission on the implementation of the present decision.

11th meeting
11 April 1995
(see para. 81 above)

C (50) STRENGTHENING OF THE ECE REGIONAL ADVISORY SERVICES PROGRAMME

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision B (49), in particular operative paragraph 8 underlining the importance of an active interaction between the ECE activities to provide expertise and assist countries in transition and the appropriate arrangements within the United Nations Secretariat in the light of General Assembly resolution 48/181,

Noting that the establishment and activities of the ECE Regional Advisory Services Programme is a practical contribution of the Commission to the restructuring of the UN Secretariat in the economic and social sectors,

1. Notes the Executive Secretary's information on the implementation of the ECE Regional Advisory Services Programme contained in his note (document E/ECE/1310);

2. Requests the Executive Secretary, in order to provide a clearer definition of the mandate and functions of the Regional Advisers with due regard to the requests of Governments of interested countries, to prepare a report for the fifty-first session of the ECE on the objectives and activities of the Programme including ways of improving its effectiveness;

3. Further requests the Executive Secretary to address, in appropriate form, the Secretary General of the United Nations with a request to allocate adequate resources within the existing United Nations regular budget for the implementation of the ECE Regional Advisory Services Programme;

4. Calls upon the ECE secretariat to intensify cooperation of its Regional Advisory Services with other relevant organizations, in particular UNDP, the Commission of the European Communities, OECD and EBRD;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its fifty-first session on the implementation of this decision.

11th meeting
11 April 1995
(see para. 82 above)

D (50) ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN IN THE LIGHT OF THE FINAL ACT OF THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Reaffirming its decision D (49) and its prior decisions adopted by the Commission on economic cooperation in the Mediterranean,

Bearing in mind that several Commission member States in the Mediterranean are developing from an economic point of view,

Noting the growing awareness of the need for joint efforts by all Mediterranean countries to strengthen economic, social, cultural and environmental cooperation and to promote stability and peace in the Mediterranean region in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE, the Charter of Paris for a New Europe, the Helsinki Document 1992 and the Budapest Document 1994,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1312 on Activities of the ECE to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE and other CSCE/OSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe, the Helsinki Document 1992 and the Budapest Document 1994, as well as economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE, and particularly Part II of the report pertaining to economic cooperation in the Mediterranean;

2. Takes note also of the participation of the ECE within the framework of the CSCE 1994 Budapest Summit, in the two sessions of the working group concerned with the economic dimensions that were devoted to Mediterranean questions;

3. Welcomes the activities undertaken by the secretariat addressing Mediterranean questions in the areas of environmental policy and conventions, including water management; transport questions; renewable sources of energy and use of solar energy; chemical industry and the treatment of industrial waste; harmonization of agricultural standards; forest fire prevention and control and other forestry issues; sustainable tourism; and other ongoing activities, as elaborated in Commission document E/ECE/1312, Part II;

4. Calls upon the Executive Secretary as previously requested to undertake action-oriented studies, including specific analysis of existing economic cooperation between ECE Mediterranean countries, and to identify effective means of enhancing economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in all areas of the ECE programme of work, taking into account the limits of available resources, for consideration by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and the Working Parties of the Commission in their programmes of work;

5. Further calls upon member States to assist the Commission in its current activities on the analysis of macroeconomic and sectoral policies with a view to taking into account the Mediterranean dimension of the ECE;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to cooperate with the Executive Secretaries of the other regional commissions concerned, as well as heads of other relevant United Nations bodies in order to secure interaction with Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, with a view to increasing interregional cooperation on the subjects within the competence of the ECE and which are of common interest to the Mediterranean countries;

7. Takes note of the initiative of the Executive Secretary to discuss with ECE members and non-member States of the Mediterranean region, the role of the UN/ECE on cooperation in the Mediterranean and encourages further exchange of views on how to give concrete substance to the Commission decisions;

8. Takes note with satisfaction that the ECE and ECA secretariats, as requested by ECOSOC Resolution 1993/60, participated in follow-up activities to the project on the Europe-Africa permanent link through the straits of Gibraltar and are preparing jointly a report which will address the studies undertaken in the period 1994-1995 in the framework of the Project, to be submitted to ECOSOC at its substantive session in 1995;

9. Takes note with satisfaction of the recognition given by the OSCE at the Budapest Summit of December 1994 to the role played by the ECE and other relevant international organizations and institutions in support of OSCE's economic dimension priority, in particular the strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean as an important factor for stability in the OSCE region;

10. Calls upon Mediterranean countries to work closely with the OSCE to intensify the dialogue between the OSCE and non-participating Mediterranean States through seminars and high-level consultations, and invites the Executive Secretary to cooperate with the informal open-ended contact group, at the level of experts, which will be established within the framework of the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna, pursuant to the decision on the Mediterranean adopted at the Budapest Summit 1994;

11. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the fifty-first session on the implementation of this decision.

11th meeting
11 April 1995
(see para. 92 above)

E (50) COOPERATION AND SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Confirming its determination to assist countries in transition in their efforts towards sustainable industrial development with a view to improving their competitiveness in international markets,

Taking note of the outcome of the Meeting of Experts to consider proposals to convene a possible European Forum on Sustainable Industrial Development, the analytical note prepared by the secretariat (IND/AC.1/3) and the Chairman's report on his consultations with the Bureaux of the PSBs (E/ECE/1314),

1. Decides to hold in 1996 during its fifty-first annual session a Round Table Conference on cooperation and sustainable industrial development;

2. Invites the Executive Secretary to prepare, in cooperation with other subsidiary bodies, relevant international organizations and NGOs, as well as representatives of the business community and in consultations with ECE experts in the field of industrial cooperation, a Round Table Conference with a view to elaborating concrete proposals on strengthening cooperation in the field of sustainable industrial development, including modalities of the assistance to the countries in transition in this area.

11th meeting
11 April 1995
(see para. 93 above)

F (50) STRENGTHENING OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE AND THE ORGANIZATION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 47/10, 48/19 and 49/13 concerning cooperation between the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe,

Mindful of the Framework for cooperation and coordination between the United Nations Secretariat and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, signed on 26 May 1993,

Welcoming the Budapest Summit Declaration and Budapest Decisions adopted by the CSCE Review Conference and in particular Chapter IX "The Economic Dimension" which contain the main orientations for cooperation in the field of economics, science and technology and environment in the ECE region, further developing the pertinent provisions of the Document of the Bonn Conference on Economic Cooperation and the Charter of Paris for a New Europe,

Aware of the importance of establishing better coordination between ECE and the Economic Forum as well as with other relevant OSCE institutions, which would take into account the expertise and potential of the ECE in promoting economic cooperation including assistance to the countries in transition,

1. Welcomes the recognition by the OSCE at the Budapest Summit of December 1994 of the role of the ECE and other international organizations and institutions in supporting of OSCE's economic dimension priorities;

2. Takes note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents (E/ECE/1312) and also takes note of the proposals for cooperation between the secretariat of the ECE and the Secretariat of the OSCE to promote the implementation of the pertinent provisions of the final documents of the Budapest Summit;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to take the necessary steps to implement these proposals paying special attention to the ECE contribution to the preparation of the Third Meeting of the OSCE Economic Forum on the theme "Regional Economic Cooperation in the fields of Trade, Investment and Infrastructure" and to submit in due time to the OSCE Economic Forum chairperson relevant available reports and studies including the study on ways and means of promoting the expansion of trade of the countries in transition;

4. Also requests the Executive Secretary to actively contribute to and participate in the formal and informal consultations prior to the Economic Forum, where specific sub-topics for discussion at the Forum and its follow-up will be decided upon, as well as in the OSCE international organizations contact point for information exchange with the OSCE on activities relating to the economic dimension;

5. Further requests the Executive Secretary to participate actively in the discussion at the Economic Forum, focusing on ECE activities in the areas under discussion, the insights ECE studies give in these fields, and on how its output may be of practical use to policy-makers and the business community;

6. Calls upon its Subsidiary Bodies to contribute in the appropriate manner to the practical follow-up of the economic dimension of the OSCE in line with the role recognized to the UN/ECE by paragraph 15 of the Budapest Summit Declaration;

7. Stresses the importance of establishing close cooperation between ECE and OSCE in the economic dimension and invites the Executive Secretary to undertake the necessary steps to this end;

8. Requests also the Executive Secretary to report to the fifty-first session of the Commission on the implementation of the present decision.

11th meeting
11 April 1995
(see para. 155 above)

G (50) COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision F (49) on cooperation in the field of environment and sustainable development,

Recognizing the need to ensure that policies in all sectors are consistent with sustainable development,

Stressing the necessity to consolidate such coordination and cooperation in order to make optimal use of existing resources and to avoid duplication of work, so as to be able to respond better to the needs of the countries in the region, particularly those in transition,

1. Stresses the need for all relevant Principal Subsidiary Bodies, taking into account their respective spheres of competence, to strengthen their activities in the field of environment and sustainable development, and takes note of the report of the Committee on Environmental Policy on problems and bottlenecks in the ECE activities in the field of the environment and sustainable development and endorses the recommendations by the Committee in that respect;

2. Takes note of the clarification provided by the secretariat of the resource implications of the draft UN/ECE Action Plan to implement Agenda 21 to the Committee on Environmental Policy at its last session;

3. Invites ECE member States and the EU to continue to support the further development of the "Environment for Europe" process and the preparations for the Ministerial Conference to be held in Sofia in October 1995, and requests the Executive Secretary to continue to support, within existing resources, the Working Group of Senior Governmental Officials in coordinating this work and the Bulgarian Government in its organizational work for the Conference;

4. Welcomes the initial progress made by the OECD, increasingly in cooperation with UN/ECE, in conducting pilot Country Environmental Performance Reviews in Central and Eastern Europe, looks forward to the results of the ECE's first such Performance Review, and requests that the Committee on Environmental Policy make a decision as soon as possible concerning both the development of an ECE programme of Country Environmental Performance Reviews and the provision of necessary resources for such a work programme;

5. Takes note of the work under way in the Preparatory Committee for the Regional Conference on Transport and the Environment to take place in 1996 under the auspices of the ECE;

6. Calls upon the Inland Transport Committee and the Committee on Environmental Policy to cooperate in the promotion of sustainable development in their respective work plans and in the preparation of the Regional Conference on Transport and the Environment;

7. Calls again upon all ECE member States and the European Union to consider, if they have not already done so, the earliest possible ratification of or accession to, as appropriate, the following ECE conventions:

- the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution,
- the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context,

- the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents,
- the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes;

8. Further calls upon all ECE member States and the European Union to consider ratification of or accession to the NOx and VOC protocols and to consider signature, ratification of or accession to, as appropriate, the Protocol on Further Reductions of Sulphur Emissions under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution;

9. Invites the ECE member States, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions and other potential donors to consider the financial and technical needs of the countries in transition in implementing the provisions of the above-mentioned Conventions and Protocols;

10. Finally requests the Executive Secretary to report to its fifty-first session on the action he will have taken to implement this decision.

11th meeting
11 April 1995
(see para. 165 above)

H (50) COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF TRANSPORT

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions O (45), F (48) and G (49),

Underlining the continued high priority it assigns to the transport sector of its work which represents an important contribution to the economic development and integration in the region,

Conscious of the continuing difficulties of countries in transition to expand market economy mechanisms in all fields of transport,

Considering that one of the prerequisites for such developments is the building and the improvement of an efficient, safe and sustainable network of transport infrastructures meeting accepted and further developed environmental standards,

Confirming the need to ensure close cooperation with the European Union and organizations dealing with transport questions with a view to developing Transport Policy Concepts while avoiding duplication of work and waste of resources,

Recognizing the continuing importance of the ECE in regional transport cooperation and with a view to assisting and supporting member States, especially countries in transition, in their endeavours further to enhance their transport policies and decisions,

1. Takes note of the report and the conclusions of the fifty-seventh session of the Inland Transport Committee;

2. Commends the secretariat for its contributions to the results of the second Pan-European Transport Conference (14-16 March 1994, Crete) and the recognition received in the final

declaration of the Conference namely with regard to its tasks in the field of infrastructures, road safety, vehicle construction, transport of dangerous goods, combined transport;

3. Welcomes the course and first results of the second Road Safety Week in the ECE region (27 March-2 April 1995) and thanks member States, the secretariat, participating organizations and individuals for the support and engagement, thus maintaining its continued attention to the behaviour of young drivers;

4. Takes note of the Interim report of the Preparatory Committee for the 1996 Conference on Transport and Environment;

5. Supports the findings of the Preparatory Committee on the Draft Guidelines for a Common Strategy on Transport and the Environment and requests the Preparatory Committee to continue its endeavours to elaborate draft final documents for the Conference taking into account the options contained in the Interim Report;

6. Authorizes the bureau to call the Commission for a formal session before the end of 1995, to decide on the date and venue of the Conference in the second half of 1996;

7. Emphasizes the necessity of an urgent revision of the provisions of the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets to provide for stable long-term solutions in this field and also to reduce the risk of possible Customs fraud and smuggling;

8. Endorses the decision of the Inland Transport Committee to set up an International Working Group for the future drafting, jointly with the other organizations concerned, of a European Agreement concerning the international carriage of dangerous goods by Inland Waterways in order to achieve prescriptions for such transport on European Inland Waterways and to provide the necessary coherence with ADNR;

9. Invites member States and the European Union to sign the Convention on Customs Treatment of Pool Containers used in International Transport possibly until 14 April 1995;

10. Takes note of the increasing number of Contracting Parties to other ECE Agreements and Conventions and invites Governments which have not yet acceded to those, especially if they are not yet in force, to examine the possibilities for doing so;

11. Takes note with satisfaction of the completion of the first step of the revision of the 1958 Agreement concerning the adoption of uniform conditions of approval and reciprocal recognition of approval for motor vehicle equipment and parts and welcomes the introduction of a second stage in the revision process concerning additional modifications of the Agreement as a global instrument;

12. Urges the Inland Transport Committee to do its utmost to complete at its next sessions regulations for combined transport on inland waterways and possibly for coastal shipping;

13. Welcomes the decisions of the fifty-seventh session of the Inland Transport Committee aimed at intensifying assistance to countries in transition and invites those countries to submit to the Inland Transport Committee respective programme proposals and their assessment of priorities;

14. Takes note of further development of TEM and TER infrastructure projects and invites ECE Governments, the European Union and relevant non-governmental institutions to cooperate closely with the Commission and TEM and TER countries in the implementation of the objectives agreed upon with a view to taking them into account in the further development of European transport networks;

15. Requests the Executive Secretary, taking into account the increase in the work load of the Transport Division with regard to the international rules on the transport of dangerous goods, to assign, within existing resources but as soon as possible an additional professional to the division for the respective work;

16. Reiterates the necessity to maintain the number and level of the professional and other staff of the Transport Division and to fill vacant posts as soon as possible;

17. Calls upon the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its fifty-first session on the implementation of this decision.

11th meeting
11 April 1995
(see para. 170 above)

I (50) COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ENERGY

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision O (45), in particular operative paragraph 3g(iv) related to the energy sector,

Taking into account Commission decisions B (49) and F (49),

Noting the important role of cooperation in the field of energy in the ECE region,

Underlining the importance of energy related questions in regional cooperation and, in particular, as regards the assistance to economies in transition,

Recalling also with satisfaction the signature of the European Energy Charter Treaty and its Energy Efficiency Protocol, and having in mind that the Commission could make a valuable contribution in supporting the implementation of the European Energy Charter,

Noting the repeated requests of a number of member States that energy be considered a priority of the Economic Commission for Europe,

1. Takes note of the report and the conclusions of the fourth session of the Committee on Energy and requests the secretariat to submit to the Committee at its fifth session a draft work programme taking into account the activities of other international organizations working in the field of energy and containing proposals on possible areas of cooperation with them within the existing resources;

2. Confirms the importance of continuing the programme of workshops and seminars in the field of energy which proved to be of practical importance to the countries in transition and of making full use of the service of the regional adviser on energy in implementation of this programme;

3. Emphasizes the growing importance of energy in the development of economic cooperation in the ECE region;

4. Welcomes the efforts of the secretariat to diversify the forms and methods of the assistance to the countries in transition and, in particular, as regards the technical cooperation in promotion and development of a market-based gas industry in economies in transition - "Gas Centre";

5. Notes with satisfaction the progress made in implementation of the first phase of the "Energy Efficiency 2000" Project and encourages further development of the Project during its second phase;

6. Invites Governments of the member countries and relevant international organizations, institutions and programmes to participate in the Energy Efficiency 2000 Project and Gas Centre and to make contributions to their Trust Funds;

7. Notes with appreciation the close cooperation and coordination between the United Nations organs and agencies and, in particular in the areas dealing with the efficient use of limited energy resources;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its fifty-first session on the implementation of this decision.

11th meeting
11 April 1995
(see para. 177 above)

J (50) COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 49/109, dated 19 December 1994 on the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and ECE decision I (49) concerning the ECE's contribution to the Conference,

Conscious of the importance of the cross-sectoral role of human settlements in applying sustainable patterns of development in the whole ECE region and particularly in the countries in transition,

Recognizing the relevance of good urban management and an efficient housing and construction sector in supporting the transition process,

Taking note of the growing support of a number of ECE member countries for the ECE Human Settlements Programme,

1. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1318 on the ongoing preparations for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT II);

2. Calls upon the Committee on Human Settlements in cooperation with other ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies to provide policy guidance and practical expertise in

- reforming the housing and construction sector in transition countries by means of action oriented studies and activities as well as through regular progress assessment and consultation,

- supporting the reform in the financial sector by developing appropriate schemes for financing housing and infrastructure investments,

- accelerating the modernization and improving the maintenance of the housing stock in order to provide better living conditions and, at the same time, reduce the over-consumption of energy, water and other resources,

- assisting the development of an efficient land management system by creation and improvement of land registration/cadastre,

- developing guidelines for urban planning and the provision of local infrastructure and services;

3. Invites the Executive Secretary

- to ensure that the existing resources are used fully in the Human Settlements section and the vacant posts in the section are filled, to implement inter alia decision I (49) concerning the ECE contribution to Habitat II,

- to initiate preparations in cooperation with the Committee on Human Settlements and other Principal Subsidiary Bodies, in line with UN General Assembly resolution 49/109, Articles 4 and 15, to include in their programme activities for 1995 an item on preparations for Habitat II, with particular emphasis on preparations in the ECE region for the Conference and to submit a report on these preparations to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session,

- to submit a report to the Commission at its fifty-first session on the implementation of this decision.

11th meeting
11 April 1995
(see para. 202 above)

ANNEX I

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF
ACTIONS AND PROPOSALS OF THE COMMISSION

(TO BE ABSORBED WITHIN THE EXISTING BUDGETARY PROVISIONS)

nil

ANNEX II

LIST OF MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION'S SUBSIDIARY BODIES IN 1994/95

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
THE COMMISSION			
Ad hoc Informal Meeting of the Commission		22 June 1994	ECE/AC.20/94(3)/1
Chairperson:	Mr. L. Dembinski (Poland)	29 September 1994	ECE/AC.20/94(4)/1
		12 December 1994	ECE/AC.20/94(5)/1
		27 January 1995	ECE/AC.20/95(1)/1
		24 March 1995	ECE/AC.20/95(2)/1
High-Level Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women		17-21 October 1994 Vienna (Austria)	E/ECE/RW/HLM/7
Chairperson:	Ms. J. Dohnal (Austria)		
Vice-Chairpersons:	Ms.S. Finestone (Canada)		
	Mr. A.M. Panov (Russian Federation)		
	Ms. H. Puwak (Romania)		
	Ms. E. Rehn (Finland)		
	Ms. M. Smet (Belgium)		
Preparatory Committee of the 1996 Regional Conference on Transport and the Environment		1st session 20 June 1994	ECE/RCTE/PC/1
Chairman:	Mr. S. Schimming (Germany)	2nd session 21-24 November 1994	ECE/RCTE/PC/8
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. G. Gauvin (France)		
	Mr. V. Donchenko (Russian Federation)	3rd session 12-13 January 1995	ECE/RCTE/PC/14
		4th session 16-17 February 1995	ECE/RCTE/PC/16
Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution			
Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution		Special session 13-14 June 1994 Oslo (Norway)	ECE/EB.AIR/38
Chairman:	Mr. T. Berntsen (Norway)		
Chairman:	Mr. J. Thompson (Norway)	12th session 28 November- 1 December 1994	ECE/EB.AIR/42
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. J. Beale (United States)		
	Mr. L. Björkbom (Sweden)		
	Mr. H. Haider (Austria)		
	Mr. R. Mills (United Kingdom)		
	Mr. J. Zurek (Poland)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP)	18th session 31 August- 2 September 1994	EB.AIR/GE.1/24
Chairman: Mr. E. Weber (Germany) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. I. Allegrini (Italy) Mr. R. Gehrig (Switzerland) Mr. N.Z. Heidam (Denmark) Ms. M. Lesnjak (Slovenia) Ms. G. Mitosek (Poland)		
Working Group on Effects	13th session 29 June-1 July 1994	EB.AIR/WG.1/22
Chairman: Mr. K. Bull (United Kingdom) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. B. Achermann (Switzerland) Mr. G. Fenech (Canada) Mr. R. Guardans (Spain) Mr. J. Kämäri (Finland) Mrs. E. Marchwinska (Poland)		
Working Group on Strategies	13th session 22-24 August 1994	EB.AIR/WG.5/26
Chairman: Mr. L. Bjorkbom (Sweden) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. D. Coppins (Ireland) Mr. W. Draper (Canada) Mr. D. Hrcek (Slovenia) Mr. H. Vygen (Germany)	Special session 28 November 1994 14th session 6-8 March 1995	EB.AIR/WG.5/28 EB.AIR/WG.5/30
Working Group on Technology	3rd session 28-29 June 1994	EB.AIR/WG.6/6
Chairman: Mr. E. Kovacs (Hungary) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. L. Lindau (Sweden)		
Ad Hoc Preparatory Working Group on Persistent Organic Pollutants	1st session 9 March 1995	EB.AIR/WG.7/2
Chairman: Mr. D.Stone (Canada) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. R. Guardans (Spain) Mr. L. Lindau (Sweden) Mr. V. Sokolovsky (Russian Federation) Mr. M. Williams (United Kingdom)		
Ad Hoc Preparatory Working Group on Heavy Metals	1st session 10 March 1995	EB.AIR/WG.8/2
Chairman: Mr. D. Jost (Germany) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. M. Fara (Czech Republic)		

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
ENVIRONMENT			
Committee on Environmental Policy		1st session 30-31 May 1994	ECE/CEP/1
Chairman:	Mr. K. Bärlund (Finland)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. D. Mount (United States) Mr. W. Kakebeeke (Netherlands) Mr. V. Kostin (Russian Federation) Mr. B. Natov (Bulgaria) Mrs. B. Quincy (France) Mr. I. Tokes (Hungary)	Special session 31 October - 1 November 1994	ECE/CEP/8
Ad Hoc Meeting on the Management of Hazardous Chemicals		17-20 October 1994 Vienna (Austria)	CEP/AC.1/1
Chairman:	Mr. H. Kohlmann (Austsria)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. I. Tokés (Hungary) Mr. B. Wahlström (Sweden)		
Working Group of Senior Governmental Officials "Environment for Europe"		2nd session 1-3 June 1994	CEP/WG.1/1
Chairman:	Mr. W. Kakebeeke (Netherlands)	3rd session 1-3 November 1994	CEP/WG.1/3
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. B. Natov (Bulgaria)		
		4th session 13-15 February 1995	CEP/WG.1/5
Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics		5th session 25-26 January 1995	CEP/WG.2/2 EC.AD/WG.1/10
Chairman:	Mr. N.A. Braathen (Norway)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. V. Gejdos (Czech Republic)		
Meeting of the Signatories to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context		4th meeting 14-17 March 1995	CEP/WG.3/2
Chairman:	Mr. S. Tveritinov (Russian Federation)		
Vice-Chairman:	Ms. U.-R. Soveri (Finland)		
Meeting of the Signatories to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents		4th meeting 8-10 February 1995	CEP/WG.4/2
Chairman:	Mr. J. Zurek (Poland)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. E. Berger (Switzerland) Mr. I. Bukovics (Hungary)		

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
Working Party on Water Problems		8th session 28 February - 3 March 1995	CEP/WP.1/2
Chairman:	Mr. M. Varela (Spain)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. M. Matuska (Slovakia)		
	TRANSPORT		
Inland Transport Committee		57th session 16-20 January 1995	ECE/TRANS/111 and Add.1
Chairman:	Mr. J. Silva Rodrigues (Portugal)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. A. Suvorov (Russian Federation)		
Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics		7th session 26-28 September 1994	TRANS/WP.5/14
Chairman:	Mr. S. Aciman (Spain)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. W. Dörries (Germany)		
Working Party on Transport Statistics		45th session 21-23 November 1994	TRANS/WP.6/127 CES/AC.62/79
Chairman:	Mr. F. Stulemeijer (Netherlands)		
Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs		50th session 14-17 November 1994	TRANS/WP.11/190
Chairman:	Mr. M. de Clippel (Belgium)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. M. Eilsoe (Denmark)		
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods		54th session 16-20 May 1994	TRANS/WP.15/130
Chairman:	Mr. E. Berson (France)	55th session 7-11 November 1994	TRANS/WP.15/132
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. J. Franco (Portugal)		
Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods		20-30 September 1994	TRANS/WP.15/ AC.1/58
		20-31 March 1995	TRANS/WP.15/ AC.1/60
Chairman:	Mr. W. Visser (Netherlands)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. F. Lohrmann (Germany)		
Working Party on Combined Transport		21st session 5-7 September 1994	TRANS/WP.24/63
Chairman:	Mr. E. Volk (Germany)		

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
Working Party on the Construction of Vehicles		103rd session 28 June-1 July 1994	TRANS/WP.29/408
Chairman: Vice-Chairman:	Mr. B. Gauvin (France) Mr. V. Koutenev (Russian Federation)	104th session 8-11 November 1994	TRANS/WP.29/427
Chairman: Vice-Chairman:	Mr. V. Koutenev (Russian Federation) Mr. B. Gauvin (France)	105th session 7-10 March 1995	TRANS/WP.29/436
Meeting of Experts on Noise		22nd session 15-16 September 1994	TRANS/WP.29/GRB/20
Chairman:	Mr. K.F. Ditsch (Germany)		
Meeting of Experts on Lighting and Light-signalling		33rd session 17-21 October 1994	TRANS/WP.29/GRE/33
Chairman:	Mr. G. Meekel (Netherlands)	34th session 27-31 March 1995	TRANS/WP.29/GRE/34
Meeting of Experts on Pollution and Energy		28th session 5-7 July 1994	TRANS/WP.29/GRPE/28
Chairman:	Mr. B. Gauvin (France)	29th session 17-19 January 1995	TRANS/WP.29/GRPE/29
Meeting of Experts on Brakes and Running Gear		35th session 12-14 September 1994	TRANS/WP.29/GRRF/35
Chairman:	Mr. M. Fendick (United Kingdom)	36th session 6-9 February 1995	TRANS/WP.29/GRRF/36
Meeting of Experts on General Safety Provisions		67th session 3-6 October 1994	TRANS/WP.29/GRSG/46
Chairman:	Mr. A. Perea (Spain)		
Meeting of Experts on Passive Safety		15th session 30 May-3 June 1994	TRANS/WP.29/GRSP/15
Chairman:	Mr. C. Lomonaco (Italy)	16th session 28 November-1 December 1994	TRANS/WP.29/GRSP/16

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport		79th session 28 June-1 July 1994	TRANS/WP.30/157
Chairman:	Mr. R. Ehmcke (Germany)	80th session 18-21 October 1994	TRANS/WP.30/159
		81st session 28 February- 3 March 1995	TRANS/WP.30/162
Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention 1975		17th session 20-21 October 1994	TRANS/WP.30/ AC.2/35
Chairman:	Mr. J. Kroon (Netherlands)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. C. Woodward (United States)		
Principal Working Party on Road Transport		88th session 26-28 October 1994	TRANS/SC.1/355
Chairman:	Mr. C.-S. Dobrota (Romania)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. S. Schimming (Germany)		
Ad Hoc Meeting on Implementation of the European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR)		13th meeting 9-10 May 1994	TRANS/SC.1/ AC.5/26
Chairman:	Mr. E. Renstrup (Denmark)		
Working Party on Road Traffic Safety		22nd session 11-14 April 1994	TRANS/SC.1/ WP.1/44
Chairman:	Mr. J. Jenssen (Norway)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mrs. M.-J. Rambeau (France) Mr. V. Spicka (Czech Republic)	23rd session 10-13 October 1994	TRANS/SC.1/ WP.1/46
Principal Working Party on Rail Transport		48th session 24-26 October 1994	TRANS/SC.2/182
Chairman:	Mr. F. Gudin (France)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. G. Pellicano (Italy)		
Principal Working Party on Inland Water Transport		38th session 14-16 November 1994	TRANS/SC.3/135
Chairman:	Mr. C. Hofhuizen (Netherlands)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mrs. C. Cucu (Romania)		
Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation		8th session 22-24 August 1994	TRANS/SC.3/ WP.3/16
Chairman:	Mr. H. Van Doorn (Netherlands)		
Chairman:	Mr. D. Anissine (Russian Federation)	9th session 15-17 February 1995	TRANS/SC.3/ WP.3/18

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
Ad hoc Group of Experts on Inland Waterways Infrastructure		4th session 25-26 August 1994	TRANS/SC.3/ WP.3/AC.1/8
Chairman:	Mrs. V. Cucu (Romania)		

STATISTICS

Conference of European Statisticians		42nd plenary session 13-17 June 1994	ECE/CES/45 + CES/830 &
Chairman:	Mr. I. Fellegi (Canada)	OECD, Paris (France)	Adds.1-6
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. H.E. Zeuthen (Denmark) Mr. G. Vukovich (Hungary) Mr. P. Garonna (Italy) Mr. J. Olénski (Poland) Mr. O. Güvenen (Turkey)		
ECE/WHO Joint Meeting on Health Statistics		5th meeting 24-26 May 1994	CES/AC.36/55
Chairman:	Mr. J.T. Bonte (Netherlands)		
Vice-Chairman:	Dr. P. Józan (Hungary)		
Working Party on Transport Statistics		45th session 21-23 November 1994	CES/AC.62/79 TRANS/WP.6/127
Chairman:	Mr. F. Stulemeijer (Netherlands)		
Joint ECE/OECD Meeting on National Accounts		27-29 April 1994	CES/AC.68/16
Chairman:	Ms. A.M. Brathen (Sweden)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. V.G. Dumitrescu (Romania)		
Working Party on Electronic Data Processing		24th session 21-24 February 1995	CES/WP.9/340
Chairman:	Mr. R. Taylor (United Kingdom)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mrs. E. Gerecz-Kertesz (Hungary)		
Seminar on Integrated Statistical Information Systems and Related Matters (ISIS '94)		16-20 May 1994 Bratislava (Slovakia)	CES/SEM.33/2
Chairman:	Mr. S. Condik (Slovakia)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. J. Ludley (United Kingdom)		

TRADE FACILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Committee on the Development of Trade		43rd session 6-8 December 1994	ECE/TRADE/194
Chairman:	Mr. J. de Laurentis (United States)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. M. Berinde (Romania)		

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures		40th session 20-23 September 1994	TRADE/WP.4/189
Chairman: **Vice-Chairman:**	Mr. T. Blomfeldt (Finland) Ms. N. Willenz-Gardner (United States)	41st session 21-24 March 1995	TRADE/WP.4/191
Meeting of Experts on Data Elements and Automatic Data Interchange		50th session 20-21 September 1994	TRADE/WP.4/GE.1/97
Chairman: **Vice-Chairman:**	Mr. R. Walker (United Kingdom) Mr. C. Chiaramonti (France)	51st session 21-22 March 1995	TRADE/WP.4/GE.1/99
Meeting of Experts on Procedures and Documentation		50th session 22 September 1994	TRADE/WP.4/GE.2/97
Chairman: **Vice-Chairmen:**	Mr. E. Goffin (Belgium) Mr. D. Dima (Romania) Mr. F. Vuilleumier (Switzerland)	51st session 23 March 1995	TRADE/WP.4/GE.2/99
Working Party on International Contract Practices in Industry		43rd session 5-7 September 1994	TRADE/WP.5/52
Chairman: **Vice-Chairman:**	Mr. D. Winter (United Kingdom) Mr. D. Colodeiciuc (Romania)		
ECONOMIC ANALYSIS			
Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments		30th session 6-10 June 1994	ECE/EC.AD/44 + Add.1
Chairman: **Vice-Chairmen:**	Mr. J.-P. Pagé (France) Mr. K. Puumanen (Finland) Mr. I. Kosir (Slovakia)		
Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics		5th session 25-26 January 1995	CEP/WG.2/2 EC.AD/WG.1/10
Chairman: **Vice-Chairman:**	Mr. N.A. Braathen (Norway) Mr. V. Gejdos (Czech Republic)		
ENERGY			
Committee on Energy		4th session 8-10 November 1994	ECE/ENERGY/26
Chairman: **Vice-Chairmen:**	Mr. I. Szergenyi (Hungary) Mr.T. Alptürk (Turkey) Mr. A. Gritsenko (Russian Federation)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 2000 Project	5th session 9-11 May 1994	ENERGY/AC.11/20
Chairman: Mr. T. Johansson (Sweden) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. D. Volfberg (Russian Federation)		
Working Party on Coal	4th session 12-14 October 1994	ENERGY/WP.1/8
Chairman: Mr. V. Sukhov (Russian Federation) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. M. Benech (France)		
Meeting of Experts on Research, Management and Transition in the Coal Industry	2nd session 10-11 October 1994	ENERGY/WP.1/GE.1/7
Chairman: Mr. V. Ilyin (Russian Federation) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. R. Mañana (Spain)		
Meeting of Experts on Coal Trade, Statistics and Transport	4th session 16-18 May 1994 Paris (France)	ENERGY/WP.1/GE.2/8
Chairman: Mr. P. Hurley (Australia) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. M. Margnes (France)		
Meeting of Experts on Clean Coal Technologies	3rd session 3-5 April 1995	ENERGY/WP.1/GE.3/6
Chairman: Mr. G. Golovin (Russian Federation) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. T. Atwood (United States)		
Seminar on Rock Bursts and Sudden Outbursts: Theory, Forecasting, Prevention and Protection of Miners	5-9 June 1994 St. Petersburg (Russian Federation)	ENERGY/WP.1/ SEM.3/1
Chairman: Mr. D. Iakovlev (Russian Federation) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. J. Dubinski (Poland)		
Working Party on Electric Power	4th session 3-5 May 1994	ENERGY/WP.2/7
Chairman: Mr. J. Thiry (Belgium) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. T. Alpturk (Turkey)		
Meeting of Experts on Electric Power Generation and the Environment	4th session 29-30 September 1994	ENERGY/WP.2/GE.1/8
Chairman: Ms. S. Tüzüner (Turkey) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. H. Evans (United Kingdon)		
Working Party on Gas	5th session 23-25 January 1995	ENERGY/WP.3/9
Chairman: Mr. C. Simeoni (Italy) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. N. Pavlovschi (Romania)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Meeting of Experts on Natural Gas Resources	17th session 16-17 June 1994	ENERGY/WP.3/GE.1/8
Chairman: Mr. A. Van Adrichem Boogaert (Netherlands) Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Bauk (Croatia)		
Meeting of Experts on the Use and Distribution of Gas	25th session 5 September 1994	ENERGY/WP.3/GE.2/8
Chairman: Mr. G. Yardim (Turkey) Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Fronski (Poland)		
Meeting of Experts on the Transport and Storage of Gas	25th session 6-7 September 1994	ENERGY/WP.3/GE.3/8
Chairman: Mr. L. Bökenkamp (Germany) Vice-Chairman: Mr. R. van Noord (Netherlands)		
Ad Hoc Meeting of Experts on Energy Efficiency Standards and Labels	3rd session 1-2 December 1994 Milan (Italy)	ENERGY/WP.4/ AC.2/2
Chairman: Mr. D. Chello (Italy) Vice-Chairman: Mr. V. Prochazka (Czech Republic)		
Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Financial Engineering	1st session 13-14 October 1994 Budapest (Hungary)	ENERGY/WP.4/ AC.3/2
Chairman: Mrs. E. Weöres (Hungary) Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Franklin (United Kingdom)		
INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY		
Meeting of Experts to consider proposals to convene a possible European Forum on Sustainable Industrial Development	2 November 1994	IND/AC.1/2
Chairman: Mr. V. Popa (Romania) Vice-Chairman: Mr. M.J. De Meirleir (Belgium)		
A. Science and Technology		
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology	21st session 21-23 September 1994	ECE/SC.TECH./46
Chairman: Mr. M. Kepka (Poland) Vice-Chairman: Mr. P. Baruch (France)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
B. Chemicals		
Working Party on the Chemical Industry	4th session 5-7 October 1994	ECE/CHEM/98
Chairman: Mr. J. Coupek (Czech Republic) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. R.W.P. Steur (Netherlands)		
Ad Hoc Meeting for the Study on Trends in Structural and Ownership Changes in the Chemical Industries of the Economies in Transition	1st meeting 4 October 1994	CHEM/AC.31/2
Chairman: Mr. F. Doktor (Slovakia)		
Preparatory Meeting for the International Workshop on Soil Decontamination and Remediation Technologies	14 February 1995	CHEM/AC.32/2
Chairman: Ms. J. Ory (France)		
Meeting of Experts on the Periodic Survey of the Chemical Industry	20th session 4 October 1994	CHEM/GE.1/34
Chairman: Mr. V. Kamenicky (United States)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on the Complex Utilization of Raw Materials using Advanced Low- and Non-waste Process Technologies	3 October 1994	CHEM/SEM.20/AC/2
Chairman: Mr. M. Soulimov (Russian Federation)		
C. Engineering industries and automation		
Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation	13th session 31 October- 2 November 1994	ECE/ENG.AUT/54
Chairman: Ms. J. Ory (France) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. V. Petrichenko (Russian Federation)		
Meeting on Questions of Statistics concerning Engineering Industries and Automation	16th meeting 4 November 1994	ENG.AUT/AC.1/28
Chairman: Mr. H. Kriegbaum (Germany)		
Seminar on PRODCOM	3 November 1994	ENG.AUT/SEM.12/3
Chairman: Mr. C. Slight (United Kingdom)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
D. Standardization		
Working Party on Standardization Policies	4th session 9-11 May 1994	ECE/STAND/40
Chairman: Mr. S. Averin (Russian Federation) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. C. Arvius (Sweden)		
D. Steel		
Working Party on Steel	4th session 26-28 October 1994	ECE/STEEL/87
Chairman: Mr. U. Meiswinkel (Germany) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. L. Shevelev (Russian Federation)		
Ad Hoc Meeting for the Study on Restructuring and Changing Ownership in the Steel Industry	1st meeting 24 October 1994	STEEL/AC.16/2
Chairman: Mr. L. Shevelev (Russian Federation) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. W. Neuhauser (Germany)		
Meeting of Experts on the Steel Market	34th session 31 March 1995	STEEL/GE.4/17
Chairman: Mr. L. Shevelev (Russian Federation)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on the Steel Industry and Recycling	2nd meeting 29 March 1995	
Chairman: Mr. J.A. Philipp (Germany)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on the Processing, Utilization and Disposal of Waste in the Steel Industry	1st meeting 30 March 1995	STEEL/SEM.21/AC/2
Chairman: Mr. P. Tardy (Hungary)		
AGRICULTURE AND TIMBER **A. Agriculture**		
Committee on Agriculture	45th session 16-19 May 1994	ECE/AGRI/128
Chairman: Mr. H. Redl (Austria) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. K. Hirsch (Germany) Mr. A. Gasowski (Poland)		
Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development	50th session 14-16 November 1994	AGRI/WP.1/62
Chairman: Mr. F. Luciano (Italy) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mrs. J. Swiecka (Poland) Mr. F. Niculescu (Romania)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Meeting of Experts on Coordination of Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables	40th session 6-9 June 1994	AGRI/WP.1/GE.1/44
Chairman: Mr. M. Vilchez-Barros (Spain) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. D.L. Priester (United States)		
Meeting of Experts on Standardization of Dry and Dried Produce (Fruit)	41st session 20-23 June 1994	AGRI/WP.1/GE.2/53
Chairman: Mr. F. Monastra (Italy) **Vice-Chairman:** Mrs. D. Gillat (United Kingdom)		
Meeting of Experts on Standardization of Meat (Porcine, Bovine and Poultry)	5th session 13-15 December 1994	AGRI/WP.1/ GE.11/12
Chairman: Mr. B. Carpenter (United States) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. P. Turkki (Finland)		
FAO/ECE Working Party on Relations between Agriculture and the Environment	3rd session 4-7 October 1994	FAO/ECE/AGRI/ WP.4/6
Chairman: Mr. A. Hilmersen (Norway) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. L. Vermes (Hungary) Mrs. T. Avelar (Portugal)		
FAO/ECE Working Party on the Economics of the Agri-food Sector and Farm Management	3rd session 12-16 September 1994 Helsinki (Finland)	FAO/ECE/AGRI/ WP.5/5
Chairman: Mr. Cs. Székely (Hungary) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. J. Sirén (Finland)		
B. Timber		
Timber Committee	52nd session 10-13 October 1994	ECE/TIM/83
Chairman: Mr. D. Lipman (Russian Federation) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. D. Darr (United States) Mr. G. Siegel (Austria)		
Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training	20th session 7-10 November 1994 Thessaloniki (Greece)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/24
Chairman: Mr. P. Efthymiou (Greece) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. H. Hoefle (Germany) Mr. V.Korobov (Russian Federation)		
Seminar on Clothing and Safety Equipment in Forestry	27 June- 1 July 1994 Kuopio (Finland)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/ SEM.39/2
Chairman: Mr. H. Jokiluoma (Finland)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Seminar on Harvesting and Silviculture of Degraded and Coppice Forests in the Mediterranean Region	October-November 1994 Thessaloniki (Greece)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/SEM.41/2
Chairman: Mr. S.P. Dafis (Greece) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. A. Trzesniowski (Austria) Mr. G. Rafailov (Bulgaria)		
Ad Hoc Meeting on the Policy Context of ETTS V	13-15 June 1994	TIM/EFC/WP.2/AC.5/2
Chairman: Mr. S.-A. Svensson (Sweden)		
Ad Hoc Meeting to Review the Draft Study of European Timber Trends and Prospects (ETTS V)	6-8 February 1995	TIM/EFC/WP.2/AC.6/2
Chairman: Mr. P. Wardle (FAO)		
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS		
Committee on Human Settlements	55th session 13-14 September 1994	ECE/HBP/91
Chairman: Mr. L. Karlberg (Sweden) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. P. Gurtner (Switzerland) Ms. I. Pascal (Romania) Ms. M.E. Paumen (United States) Ms. H. Zaniewska (Poland)		
Regional Preparatory Meeting for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)	12 September 1994	HBP/AC.10/2
Chairman: Ms. G. Thurdin (Sweden) **Vice-Chairman:** Ms. B. Blida (Poland)		
Meeting of Experts on Human Settlements Problems in Southern Europe	18th meeting Nicosia (Cyprus)	HBP/GE.2/29
Chairman: Mr. Y.Papadopoulous (Cyprus) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. T. Popescu (Romania)		
Working Party on Sustainable Human Settlements Planning	2nd session 25-27 May 1994	HBP/WP.5/4
Chairman: Mr. U. Christiansen (Denmark) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. L. Ianasi (Romania)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Working Party on Housing Development, Modernization and Management	2nd session 2-4 May 1994	HBP/WP.6/4
Chairman: Mr. Z. Brenke (Germany) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. M. Daley (Canada) Mrs. G. Gurova (Bulgaria)		
Seminar on Renewal and Modernization of Human Settlements: Strategies for Policy Implementation	13-17 June 1994 Vienna (Austria)	HBP/SEM.51/2
Chairman: Mr. O. Maisel (Austria) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. I. Tosics (Hungary)		

ANNEX III

PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION

A. LIST OF MAJOR ECE STUDIES AND PUBLICATIONS, 1994/1995

NOTE: The language versions issued are indicated by the following abbreviations: E, English; F, French; R, Russian; E/F, bilingual (English/French); E/F/R, trilingual (English/French/Russian); *, published for the United Nations by external publishers, as indicated.

GENERAL

Annual Report of the ECE to ECOSOC, 28 April 1993 - 26 April 1994, Supplement No. 17 (E/1994/37-E/ECE/1304 and Adds. 1 and 2)	E F R
Economic Survey of Europe in 1993-1994 (Sales No. 94.II.E.1)	E F R
Economic Bulletin for Europe, Vol. 46 (1994) (Sales No. 94.II.E.38)	E F R
Economic Studies	
No. 5 - Economic Integration in Europe and North America (Sales No. GV.E.93.0.24)	E
No. 6 - Social Aspects and Country Reviews of Population (Sales No. GV.E.94.0.24)	E
No. 7 - International Migration: Regional Processes and Responses (Sales No. GV.E.93.0.25)	E
Discussion Papers Vol. 3 (1993)	
No. 2 - A Comparative View on Economic Reform in Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia (Sales No. GV.E.94.0.21)	E

ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER PROBLEMS

Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context	E/F/R
Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes	E/F/R
Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents	E/F/R
UN/ECE Action Plan to Implement Agenda 21 (E/ECE/1303)	E F R
Guidelines on Integrated Environmental Management in Countries in Transition (ECE/CEP/5) (Sales No. 94.II.E.31)	E F R
*Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution concerning the Control of Emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds or their Transboundary Fluxes	E/F/R
Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution on Further Reduction of Sulphur Emissions (ECE/EB.AIR/40)	E/F/R

Environment and Economics Series:

No.1 - An Assessment of the Situation in Belarus, Bulgaria, Hungary, Ukraine (ECE/CEP/6 : ECE/EC.AD/46) (Sales No. 94.II.E.35) — E F R

Air Pollution Studies:

No.10 - Effects and Control of Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (ECE/EB.AIR/39) (Sales No. 94.II.E.24) — E F R

TRANSPORT

European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR): Vol.I - Agreement, Protocol of signature, Annex A and appendices to Annex A with amendments thereto up to 1 January 1995; Vol.II - Annex B with amendments thereto up to 1 January 1995 (ECE/TRANS/110) (Sales No. E.94.VIII.1) — E F R

Working Party on the Construction of Vehicles - its role in the international perspective (Sales No. 94.II.E.40) — E F R

Transport Information (Sales No. 93.II.E.29) — E F

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics for Europe, 1994, Vol. XLIV (Sales No. 94.II.E.16) — E/F/R

Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe and North America, 1995, Vol. XL (Sales No. 94.II.E.14) — E/F/R

STATISTICS

Statistical Standards and Studies No. 44: Statistical Data Editing, Vol.I - Methods and Techniques (Sales No. 94.II.E.36) — E

Statistical Standards and Studies No. 45: International Comparison of Gross Domestic Product in Europe 1990 - Results of the European Comparison Programme (Sales No. 94.II.E.23) — E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Statistical Journal, Vol. 10, 1993 - Special Issue on Statistical Information Systems (International Organizations Services, B.V.) — E *

Statistical Journal, Vol. 11 (International Organizations Services, B.V.) — E *

TRADE

Codes for Types of Cargo, Packages and Packaging Materials (with complementary codes for packaging names) - Recommendation No. 21/Rev.1 (ECE/TRADE/195) — E F R

ENERGY

Manual on Financial Engineering - Sources of Finance for Energy Efficiency Projects (ENERGY/WP.4/R.1)	E F R
Manual on Business Planning - How to Construct a Business Plan for Energy Efficiency Projects (ENERGY/WP.4/R.2)	E F R
Map of European Inland Waterways (Sales No. 94.II.E.27)	E/F/R

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of Coal Statistics for Europe and North America, 1994, Vol. XXVII (Sales No. 94.II.E.11)	E/F/R
Annual Bulletin of Electric Energy Statistics for Europe and North America, 1994, Vol. XXXVIII (Sales No. 94.II.E.12)	E/F/R
Annual Bulletin of Gas Statistics for Europe and North America, 1994, Vol. XXXVIII (Sales No. 94.II.E.13)	E/F/R

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

A. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

ECE Inventory of Safety Guidelines in Biotechnology (ECE/SC.TECH./47)	E F R

B. CHEMICALS

Directory of Chemical Producers and Products - First Edition, Part 2 of Vol. I: Chemical Enterprises in the Mediterranean Region (ECE/CHEM/93) (Sales No. 94.II.E.18)	E
Directory of Chemical Producers and Products - Second Edition, Part 1 of Vol. I: Chemical Enterprises in Central and Eastern Europe (ECE/CHEM/99) (Sales No. 95.II.E.2)	E
The Chemical Industry in 1993, Annual Review: Production and Trade Statistics 1990-1992 (ECE/CHEM/94) (Sales No. 94.II.E.26)	E F R
Market Trends for Selected Chemical Products 1985-1990 and Prospects to 1995 (ECE/CHEM/95) (Sales No. 94.II.E.25)	E F R
Conditions for Economic Recovery and Sustainable Development in the Chemical Industry (ECE/CHEM/96)	E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of Trade in Chemical Products, 1992 (Sales No. 94.II.E.32)	E/F/R

C. ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES AND AUTOMATION

Rehabilitation Engineering (ECE/ENG.AUT/55) (Sales No. 94.II.E.17) — E F R

World Engineering Industries and Automation - Performance and Prospects, 1993-1995 (ECE/ENG.AUT/56) (Sales No. 95.II.E.3) — E F R

D. STANDARDIZATION

E. STEEL

The Steel Market in 1993 and Prospects for 1994 (ECE/STEEL/85) (Sales No. 94.II.E.28) — E F R

ECE Steel Series 1994: Structural Changes in Consumption and Trade in Steel (ECE/STEEL/88) (Sales No. 94.II.E.42) — E F R

The Steel Industry in Europe (ECE/STEEL/89) — E

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of Statistics of World Trade in Steel, 1993 (Sales No. 94.II.E.37) — E/F/R

AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Review for Europe No.36, 1992 and 1993 (ECE/AGRI/125):

Vol. I: Agricultural Trade (Sales No. 94.II.E.39) — E F R

Vol. II: The Grain Market (Sales No. 94.II.E.34) — E F R

Agricultural Review for Europe No.37, 1993 and 1994 (ECE/AGRI/130):

Vol. III: The Milk and Dairy Products Market (Sales No. 95.II.E.10) — E F R

Prices of Agricultural Products and Selected Inputs in Europe and North America, 1992/93: Annual ECE/FAO Price Review No. 43 (ECE/AGRI/126) (Sales No. 94.II.E.21) — E F R

UN/ECE Standard S-1 - Seed Potatoes (ECE/AGRI/129) — E F R

AGRI/Economics of the Agri-Food Sector and Farm Management, Report No.1: Productivity and Profitability in the Different Production Lines in Agriculture (FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.5/6) — E F R

TIMBER

Geneva Timber and Forest Study Papers

No. 1: Forest and Forest Products - Country Profile: Bulgaria (ECE/TIM/SP/1) (Sales No. 94.II.E.29) — E F R

No. 2: Forest and Forest Products - Country Profile: Slovenia (ECE/TIM/SP/2) (Sales No. 94.II.E.30) E F R

No. 3: Forest and Forest Products - Country Profile: Lithuania (ECE/TIM/SP/3) (Sales No. 94.II.E.20) E F R

No. 4: Forest and Forest Products - Country Profile: Ukraine (ECE/TIM/SP/4) (Sales No. 94.II.E.19) E F R

No. 5: Forest and Forest Products - Country Profile: Belarus (ECE/TIM/SP/5) (Sales No. 94.II.E.33) E F R

No. 6: The Forest Resources of the Temperate Zones: Forest resource information of some newly constituted countries (Armenia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia, Slovenia) (Supplement to the UN-ECE/FAO 1990 Forest Resource Assessment) (ECE/TIM/SP/6) (Sales No. 94.II.E.22) E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Timber Committee Yearbook 1993 (ECE/TIM/INF/1) E F R

Timber Committee Yearbook 1994 (ECE/TIM/INF/2) E F R

Timber Bulletin, Vol. XLVII (1994)

No.1: Forest Products Prices 1992-1994 (ECE/TIM/BULL/47/1) E/F

No.2: Forest Products Statistics, 1989-1993 (ECE/TIM/BULL/47/2) E/F

No.3: Forest Products Annual Market Review, 1993-1994 (ECE/TIM/BULL/47/3) E F R

No. 5: Forest Products Trade Flow Data, 1992-1993 (ECE/TIM/BULL/47/5) E/F

No.6: Forest Products Markets in 1994 and Prospects for 1995 (ECE/TIM/BULL/47/6) E/F

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

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B. LIST OF DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION AT ITS FIFTIETH SESSION

Provisional agenda E/ECE/1309 and Corr.1

Commission's activities designed to assist the integration of the countries in transition into the European and global economy /1310

Ways and means of promoting the expansion of trade in transition economies /1311 and Adds.1 & 2

Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Concluding Document of the Review Conference in Budapest, Hungary, as well as economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE	/1312
The contribution of ECE to the commemoration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations	/1313
Consultations held by the Chairman of the Commission with the Bureaux or the Chairpersons of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and the Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission	/1314
Summary Document	/1315 and Add.1
Cooperation in the field of environment and sustainable development	/1316
Cooperation in the field of transport	/1317
Interim report on the preparatory work of the Regional Conference on Transport and Environment	/Add.1
United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT II)	/1318
Cooperation and coordination of activities with other international organizations and institutions and subregional groupings	/1319
Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly	/1320 and Add.1
Commission's contribution and follow-up to the United Nations global programmes and to the Organization's programmes designed to assist developing countries of other regions	/1321
Programme of work for 1995-1999	/1322

Reports of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission

Committee on Environmental Policy	ECE/CEP/1 ECE/CEP/8
Inland Transport Committee	ECE/TRANS/111 + Add.1
Conference of European Statisticians	ECE/CES/45 CES/830 + Adds
Committee on the Development of Trade	ECE/TRADE/194
Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments	ECE/EC.AD/44 + Add.1

Committee on Energy	ECE/ENERGY/26
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology	ECE/SC.TECH./46
Committee on Agriculture	ECE/AGRI/128
Timber Committee	ECE/TIM/83
Committee on Human Settlements	ECE/HBP/91
Reports of other subsidiary bodies	
Working Party on the Chemical Industry	ECE/CHEM/98
Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation	ECE/ENG.AUT/54
Working Party on Standardization Policies	ECE/STAND/40
Working Party on Steel	ECE/STEEL/87
Other documents	
High-level Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women	E/ECE/RW/HLM/7
Regional Platform for Action	E/ECE/RW/HLM/8
Review of ECE statistical publications	ECE/CES/46
Sustainable industrial development in Europe	IND/AC.1/3
Problems and bottlenecks in the ECE activities in the field of environment and sustainable development	ECE/CEP/12

ANNEX IV

PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1995-1999

Introduction

The programme of work is divided into the following programme categories:

CATEGORY	SUB-PROGRAMME
00	Policy and coordination of the work of the Commission
01	Environment
02	Transport
03	Statistics
04	Trade facilitation
05	Economic analysis
06	Energy
07	Development of international trade
08	Industry and technology A. Science and technology B. Chemicals * C. Engineering industries and automation * D. Standardization * E. Steel *
09	Agriculture and timber A. Agriculture B. Timber
10	Human settlements

* Activities in these areas are carried out by Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission.

SUB-PROGRAMME 00 - POLICY AND COORDINATION OF THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION AS A WHOLE

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission; relevant resolutions and other decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the Commission.

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 00.1: ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION AS A WHOLE AND PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES

00.1.1 Review and guidance of the activities of the Commission as a whole: evaluation, coordination and formulation of the programme of work

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will consider its work as a whole; review and evaluate its own activity as well as that of its subsidiary bodies; guide the policy orientation, coordination and planning of the work carried out by the subsidiary bodies under its auspices; and formulate and approve its programme of work.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: At its annual sessions the Commission considers the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their work and the Executive Secretary's reports on the implementation of its relevant resolutions and decisions. The Commission considers and approves annually its programme of work for the following year and endorses in principle, subject to review at the following session, its long-term programme of work covering the next five years. The policy guidance given by the Commission, including measures for coordination, is embodied in its decisions to be implemented, as appropriate, by member Governments, by the Commission's subsidiary bodies and by its secretariat.

Duration: Continuing.

00.1.2 The work of the Commission as a whole and its future activities

Description: In its decision O (45) the Commission decided on the following priority areas of activity: environment, transport, statistics, trade facilitation, and economic analysis. It also decided on practical measures in these priority areas and on the broad outlines of work in sectors not identified as priorities in order to promote the process of economic reform and integrate the economies in transition into the global economy. The Commission further agreed on a series of measures on the methods of work, the structure and the resources of the Commission. The Commission recalled that in accordance with decision O (45) account should be taken of the impact that ECE activities in sectors not identified as priorities, such as energy, have on priority sectors.

Work accomplished: With regard to Commission decision O (45), the priorities as designated were incorporated in the revised Medium-term Plan for 1992-1997 and in the draft budget proposals of the biennia 1994-1995 and 1996-1997. With respect to decision A (46), its provisions have been implemented primarily through the redeployment of human and financial resources from programme areas not designated as priorities to the five designated priority areas.

Work to be undertaken: The Commission, taking note of the Executive Secretary's note (E/ECE/1320) on the implications of resolutions of the General Assembly and of ECOSOC for the work of the ECE, requested the Executive Secretary to bring the work of the Commission to the attention of the Secretary-General to assist him in the preparation of the reports which he is required to submit to the Assembly and invited its subsidiary bodies to consider possible work within their competence and ongoing activities which could contribute to the implementation of General Assembly resolutions and to study possible action to contribute to global programmes of the United Nations including forthcoming or recent global Conferences or international years.

It approved its programme of work for 1995-1996 and endorsed in principle, subject to review at its fifty-first session, its programme of work for 1995-1999.

The provisions of decision A (50) and the other decisions adopted by the Commission at its fiftieth session will be drawn to the attention of the pertinent subsidiary bodies for appropriate action, and reports on the implementation of these decisions will be prepared for consideration by the Commission at its fifty-first session.

Duration: One year (1995/1996)

00.1.3 Commission activities designed to assist countries of the region in transition to a market economy and their integration with the European and global economy, including facilitating access to markets for countries in transition

Description: Taking into account the fact that the recent and current developments in central and eastern Europe modify the characteristics and functioning of the societies and economies of countries of the region, the Commission, in its decisions D (45), B (46), D (47), B (48) and B (49), considered that in view of its composition and the nature of the cooperation which it implements it had a role to play in assisting the transition to market economies.

In its decision O (45) the Commission noted that work in its five priority sectors contributed significantly to promoting reform and integration or reintegration of the economies in transition with the economies of the ECE region and therefore with the global economy. In order to promote the process of economic reform, it decided on broad outlines of work in sectors not identified as priorities, and determined that the primary work methods employed to address transition issues should be workshops and other similar informal fora.

Work accomplished: The Commission has continued to organize activities to assist the countries of the region which are in transition to a market economy. In particular the ECE programme of workshops has produced some 150 workshops. Through the Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT) the Commission has provided financial assistance to the countries in transition for their participation in the ECE programme of workshops and in conventions, although these funds cannot be used for regular meetings of ECE subsidiary bodies. The Principal Subsidiary Bodies reviewed their programmes and methods of work to permit a rapid and effective response to the needs of the economies in transition. These activities were carried out in close collaboration with the international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, in particular those identified in decisions D (45), O (45) and B (46).

In response to paragraph 7 of decision B (48) and as a result of measures taken by the Secretary-General to promote decentralization of the Organization's activities in the economic and social sectors, ECE launched in the course of 1994 a programme of regional advisory services designed to foster further economic development within the region.

Pursuant to decision C (49) the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the member States of the ECE, prepared a study containing recommendations on ways and means of promoting the expansion of trade of the countries in transition (E/ECE/1311 and Adds 1 & 2).

Work to be undertaken: The ECE programme of workshops has developed further, with more than 40 on the provisional programme of future workshops in addition to the 150 or so already held.

Member Governments, the European Union and competent international institutions will continue to be invited to participate actively in transition-related activities, and encouraged to provide continued financial assistance, on a bilateral or multilateral basis, for promoting such activities. The Principal Subsidiary Bodies will continue to contribute within their competence to the preparation of practical

workshops especially on the transition to a market economy. The Executive Secretary will continue to facilitate consultations with interested countries and international institutions in order to provide expertise on programmes of transition to a market economy. (See also sub-programme 05.)

The Executive Secretary has established, in consultation with Governments of all interested member countries, the Commission of the European Communities, international organizations and private bodies, a preliminary list of experts and specialists in the problems of privatization and of transition of different economic sectors to market conditions, whose services could be offered to interested countries in transition, providing advisory services in the areas mentioned in paragraph 32 of the report E/ECE/1287 and is exploring the possibility of providing information on training courses available to representatives of the business community of countries in transition.

In its decision A (50) the Commission took note of the study prepared by the secretariat (E/ECE/1311) containing recommendations on ways and means of promoting the expansion of trade of countries in transition, as requested in operative paragraph 2 of decision C (49), welcomed the round table discussion which took place during its session on "Promoting the expansion of trade of the countries in transition as an important factor of their integration with the European and global economy" and invited the Committee on the Development of Trade and other Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned to continue their work, as appropriate and within their mandate, on issues of promotion of the expansion of trade of countries in transition including improvements in market access and in market competitiveness taking into account the framework created by the Uruguay Round and the World Trade Organization.

In its decision B (50) the Commission:

(a) Invited the secretariat to finalize the preliminary list of experts and specialists in the problems of privatization and transition of different sectors of economy to market conditions, by the end of 1995;

(b) Recommended that the Executive Secretary in consultation with the UNDP, EBRD, OECD, the World Bank and other institutions and organizations explore the possibility of establishing in one of the interested countries in transition and with financial support of these organizations and institutions of training courses in the matters of market economy for the representatives of administration and business community of the countries in transition;

(c) Requested the Executive Secretary in consultation with UNDP, EBRD and the World Bank to study the feasibility of cooperation with ECE in data collection and data sharing on foreign direct investment projects in the countries in transition;

(d) Confirmed the importance of continuing the programme of workshops and seminars which proved to be of practical importance to the countries in transition;

(e) Decided, through the Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT), to continue to provide financial assistance to the countries in transition for their participation in the ECE programme of workshops and seminars and invited Governments of the member countries, relevant international organizations and institutions as well as other potential donors to make contributions to the Fund to finance the programme of workshops, seminars and other forms of activities on transition issues organized under the ECE auspices;

(f) Recommended also to the United Nations Secretary General to consider the possibility of using ECE as a focal point of facilitating within the framework of the appropriate arrangements to be made within the United Nations Secretariat the promotion and enhancing of mutual cooperation with UN global programmes, organs and specialized agencies and within their respective mandates.

In its decision C (50) the Commission:

(a) Requested the Executive Secretary, in order to provide a clearer definition of the mandate and functions of the Regional Advisers with due regard to the requests of Governments of interested countries, to prepare a report for the fifty-first session of the ECE on the objectives and activities of the Programme including ways of improving its effectiveness;

(b) Further requested the Executive Secretary to address, in appropriate form, the Secretary General of the United Nations with a request to allocate adequate resources within the existing United Nations regular budget for the implementation of the ECE Regional Advisory Services Programme;

(c) Called upon the ECE secretariat to intensify cooperation of its Regional Advisory Services with other relevant organizations, in particular UNDP, the Commission of the European Communities,. OECD and EBRD.

In its decision G (50) the Commission invited the ECE member States, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions and other potential donors to consider the financial and technical needs of the countries in transition in implementing the provisions of Conventions and Protocols in the field of environment and air pollution.

Duration: Continuing.

00.1.4 Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE/OSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe, the Helsinki Document 1992 and the Budapest Document 1994, as well as economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE

Description: The ECE secretariat cooperates with the CSCE/OSCE in the economic dimension, as called for in the Final Act of the CSCE, the Charter of Paris for a New Europe, documents of the Bonn Conference on Economic Cooperation, the Helsinki Document (1992) and the Budapest Document 1994, notably in the areas of the environment, statistics, international trade and industry and technology.

The ECE/OSCE relationship has been given a new impetus by the Budapest Document 1994, which not only reaffirms the earlier CSCE documents but calls for the strengthening of cooperation with ECE and other international organizations and institutions to support the transition processes, regional cooperation and environmental responsibility, in support of the OSCE's economic dimension priorities. The relevant ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies pay particular attention to the topics selected for discussion at the annual Economic Forums (see E/ECE/1312, Part I).

The Commission and its Principal Subsidiary Bodies also give particular attention to projects and activities of interest to the Mediterranean countries of the ECE region, bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the Final Act and other Concluding Documents of the CSCE. The Commission's subsidiary bodies identify areas of interest, particularly in the field of trade, transport, environment, and industry and technology, for economic cooperation in the Mediterranean within the framework of over-all ECE activities and the Commission's programme of work. The Executive Secretary cooperates with the relevant United Nations bodies and has been actively pursuing contacts with all Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, on subjects within the competence of the ECE of common interest to the Mediterranean countries. (See document E/ECE/1312, Part I)

Work accomplished: With respect to cooperation with the CSCE/OSCE, the secretariat has participated in all relevant meetings of the CSCE, notably, since the forty-ninth session, the second

Economic Forum in March 1994 and the CSCE Review Conference in Budapest in October 1994. It has further participated in an active exchange of documentation on relevant activities of the two bodies in order to avoid duplication of functions and has been invited to play an active role in the Budapest Summit follow-up and in the Economic Forum preparation and follow-up as called for in the Budapest Document 1994 (see document E/ECE/1312).

Work to be undertaken: The subsidiary bodies will take into account in their work the provisions of the relevant and most recent CSCE documents, in particular the concluding document of the Review Conference in Budapest, which also reaffirms the earlier documents in which ECE is named as an implementing agency. They will also contribute in the appropriate manner to the CSCE Economic Forum, whose major topic for 1995 is regional economic cooperation in the fields of trade, investment and infrastructure. ECE is prepared to organize joint seminars on matters where it has competence and can provide expertise and experience and which at the same time avoid possible duplication with activities undertaken by other international organizations.

In its decision D (50) the Commission:

(a) Called upon the Executive Secretary as previously requested to undertake action-oriented studies, including specific analysis of existing economic cooperation between ECE Mediterranean countries, and to identify effective means of enhancing economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in all areas of the ECE programme of work, taking into account the limits of available resources, for consideration by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and the Working Parties of the Commission in their programmes of work;

(b) Further called upon member States to assist the Commission in its current activities on the analysis of macroeconomic and sectoral policies with a view to taking into account the Mediterranean dimension of the ECE;

(c) Took note of the initiative of the Executive Secretary to discuss with ECE members and non-member States of the Mediterranean region, the role of the UN/ECE on cooperation in the Mediterranean and encourages further exchange of views on how to give concrete substance to the Commission decisions;

In its decision F (50) the Commission:

(a) Welcomed the recognition by the OSCE at the Budapest Summit of December 1994 of the role of the ECE and other international organizations and institutions in supporting of OSCE's economic dimension priorities, stressed the importance of establishing close cooperation between ECE and OSCE in the economic dimension and invited the Executive Secretary to undertake the necessary steps to this end;

(b) Requested the Executive Secretary to take the necessary steps to implement the proposals contained in document E/ECE/1312 for cooperation between the ECE secretariat and the Secretariat of the OSCE to promote the implementation of the pertinent provisions of the final documents of the Budapest Summit, paying special attention to the ECE contribution to the preparation of the Third Meeting of the OSCE Economic Forum on the theme "Regional Economic Cooperation in the fields of Trade, Investment and Infrastructure" and to submit in due time to the OSCE Economic Forum chairperson relevant available reports and studies including the study on ways and means of promoting the expansion of trade of the countries in transition;

(c) Also requested the Executive Secretary to actively contribute to and participate in the formal and informal consultations prior to the Economic Forum, where specific sub-topics for discussion at the Forum and its follow-up will be decided upon, as well as in the OSCE international

organizations contact point for information exchange with the OSCE on activities relating to the economic dimension;

(d) Further requested the Executive Secretary to participate actively in the discussion at the Economic Forum, focusing on ECE activities in the areas under discussion, the insights ECE studies give in these fields, and on how its output may be of practical use to policy-makers and the business community;

(e) Called upon its Subsidiary Bodies to contribute in the appropriate manner to the practical follow-up of the economic dimension of the OSCE in line with the role recognized to the UN/ECE by paragraph 15 of the Budapest Summit Declaration.

Duration: Continuing.

00.1.5 Institutional arrangements for ECE

Description: In accordance with decision P (45), ad hoc informal meetings of the Commission are convened at least once every three months by the Chairperson of the Commission, with, inter alia, the following tasks: (a) to consult on policy matters concerning the activities of the Commission; (b) to assist preparations for the annual sessions of the Commission; (c) to monitor progress in the work programmes of the Commission; (d) to offer any necessary guidance to the Executive Secretary on the work of the Commission.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: Ad hoc informal meetings have been and will continue to be convened by the Chairperson of the Commission in accordance with decision P (45). In its decision A (50) the Commission invited the Executive Secretary to explore ways and means to increase the visibility and the outside perception of the activities of the ECE and to present information to the forthcoming Ad Hoc informal meetings of the Commission.

Duration: Continuing.

00.1.6 The provision of adequate resources for the servicing of the priority and other sectors of the Economic Commission for Europe

Description: In its decision E (48) the Commission, conscious that the effective and efficient management of the ECE, like that of other UN organizations, depends upon the reliable provision of resources, both financial and human, including skilled professionals, and aware that its increased membership had expanded the ECE's activities and imposed extra demands on its tightly-stretched resources, noted with concern that unfilled vacancies at the professional level in the priority sectors and other sectors are seriously impeding both technical and practical work of importance to the member States, as well as the ability of the secretariat to respond to the growing needs of countries in transition.

Work accomplished: The Executive Secretary has regularly provided information on the deployment of resources both under the regular budget and from extra-budgetary contributions to Permanent Missions in Geneva and to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies. He has also cooperated closely with United Nations Headquarters in the filling of key vacancies in the secretariat and in the allocation of financial resources to mandated programmes.

The Executive Secretary has urged the UN Secretary-General, in the budget submission for 1996-1997, to consider positively the possibility of future strengthening of the Commission by recommending to the General Assembly the approval of adequate human and financial resources, taking into account the areas of competence of the ECE and the needs of new member countries.

In its decision A (50) the Commission:

(a) Requested the Executive Secretary to bring to the attention of the UN Secretary General the need to provide resources necessary to fulfil its mandate taking into account a considerable increase of the membership of the Commission from 34 to 55 countries and the realization of the ECE programme of assistance to countries in transition, to take urgent action to fill the professional vacancies and invited him to provide regular information on the deployment of resources both under the regular budget and from extra-budgetary contributions to Permanent Missions in Geneva and to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies;

(b) Urged the UN Secretary General, taking into account the Commission's resolution 1 (1992-S) in restructuring the UN Secretariat to consider the possibility of further strengthening of the Commission;

(c) Requested its Principal Subsidiary Bodies to consider measures aimed at rationalization of their proceedings, including, in particular, the procedure of adoption of their reports with the view to making optimal use of available resources.

In its decision C (50) the Commission requested the Executive Secretary to address, in appropriate form, the Secretary General of the United Nations with a request to allocate adequate resources within the existing United Nations regular budget for the implementation of the ECE Regional Advisory Services Programme.

Duration: One year (1995/1996).

00.1.7 Regional conference on transport and environment

Description: Following a feasibility study prepared by the Executive Secretary, the Commission decided in its decisions F (49) and G (49) that a Regional Conference on Transport and Environment should take place in 1996 under the auspices of the ECE.

Work accomplished: A Preparatory Committee has been set up at expert level, including technical and scientific expertise. An interim report has been prepared on the results achieved, especially with regard to the envisaged topics for discussion of the Conference, its possible output and its organization and financing.

Work to be undertaken: In its decision H (50) the Commission:

(a) Supported the findings of the Preparatory Committee on the Draft Guidelines for a Common Strategy on Transport and the Environment and requested the Preparatory Committee to continue its endeavours to elaborate draft final documents for the Conference taking into account the options contained in the Interim Report;

(b) Authorized the bureau to call the Commission for a formal session before the end of 1995, to decide on the date and venue of the Conference in the second half of 1996.

Duration: Two years (1994-1996)

00.1.8 Commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations

Description: The Economic Commission for Europe, along with other programmes of the United Nations, has been invited by the Preparatory Committee for the Commemoration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations to contribute to the preparations for and the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary, highlighting its role in Europe in its 48 years of existence.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: In response to decision E (49) the secretariat, in close cooperation with the United Nations Office at Geneva, will prepare an exhibition highlighting the practical impact of ECE work on the daily life of the population in Europe to be integrated into a larger presentation organized by the United Nations Office at Geneva. The secretariat will also cooperate with the national focal points of ECE member States in this presentation.

The secretariat will initiate preparations for the fiftieth anniversary of the ECE in 1997, including a publication intended to reflect its main contributions to the well-being of the peoples and governments of the region. Such a publication could be prepared by a team of young people serving as interns in the ECE and retired staff of the ECE who would jointly represent two different readings of the history and the future of the ECE. Senior government officials will also be invited to contribute statements and articles to the publication. On the occasion of the Commission's annual session in 1997 the round table will be devoted to a discussion of the anniversary of the ECE from both a retrospective and prospective point of view. The secretariat has already requested the UN Postal Administration to begin preparations for a UN stamp in 1997 to commemorate the Commission's fiftieth anniversary.

In its decision A (50) the Commission decided to convene its fifty-second jubilee session in 1997 at high level with the view to adopting a Declaration on strengthening of economic cooperation in Europe which would define strategic directions of future activities of the ECE reflecting new realities in the ECE region and taking into account the needs and priorities of economic development of the countries in transition as well as the budget capacity and possible recommendations of the ECE ad hoc meeting on savings.

Duration: Three years (1994-1997)

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 00.2: RESOLUTIONS BEARING ON THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

00.2.1 Review and follow-up of resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly bearing on the work of the Commission

Description: At its annual sessions, the Commission will review the resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly which have a bearing on its work and will decide on the action to be taken by it in the light of the provisions of those resolutions and decisions.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The Commission undertakes this review on the basis of the Executive Secretary's note (see document E/ECE/1320) in which he brings to the Commission's attention the resolutions and decisions bearing on the work of the Commission which were adopted by the Economic and Social Council and by the General Assembly during the period since the previous session of the Commission, and the relevant work underway, with special reference to global programmes of the United Nations.

In its decision A (50) the Commission invited the Executive Secretary to study possible action within the ECE mandate, within existing resources and without prejudice to the existing ECE programmes, on General Assembly Resolutions on international cooperation and assistance to alleviate the consequences of war in Croatia and to facilitate its recovery.

Duration: Continuing.

00.2.2 The ECE's contribution to the preparatory work for the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing 1995

Description: In accordance with decision J (40) the Executive Secretary is called upon to assess developments with respect to the economic role of women in the ECE region in conjunction with other research activities of the secretariat, taking into account the roles and responsibilities of the regional commissions in developing and implementing the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development and the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. In accordance with decision H (44) the secretariat was called upon to concentrate on an inventory of the scope and content of time-use questionnaires and of time-use studies, and to make this data available to member countries. By its resolution 1990/12 the Economic and Social Council called for a World Conference on Women in 1995. As a follow-up to decisions J (40) and H (44) and Council resolution 1990/12, the Commission adopted decision K (48) in order to provide a regional contribution to the preparatory work for the World Conference.

Work accomplished: The ECE High-level Regional Preparatory Meeting (HLM) for the World Conference, held in Vienna in October 1994, adopted a Regional Platform for Action. Two workshops, on "Capacity building for the advancement of women" and "UNIDO study on the role of women in manufacturing processes", were held during the preparatory process, as well as a number of meetings with the ECE/NGO Working Group. Close cooperation and two consultative meetings were held with all international organizations and institutions active in the region, including the Council of Europe, OECD, European Union, etc.

The Conference of European Statisticians has convened meetings on improved measurements of women's labour-force participation and statistical indicators required by the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies in countries of the ECE region and will convene the next one in March 1995 in cooperation with INSTRAW. Such statistical input on women's issues will provide a substantive input for the 1995 World Conference on Women.

Work to be undertaken: An information booklet, mandated by the Department of Public Information, for distribution during the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995, and the proceedings of the Regional Preparatory Meeting, will be published. The results of the latter will be presented to the Commission on the Status of Women in March 1995 and to the Beijing Conference.

Continuous interaction will take place with ECE member States, international organizations and NGOs on the follow-up to the HLM, including a consultative meeting among the Bureau of the HLM, the UN system, Council of Europe and other international organizations and institutions active in the region on the envisaged Plan of Action in conformity with the requirements of the Regional Platform for Action. In its decision A (50) the Commission invited the Executive Secretary to study possible action within the ECE mandate, within existing resources and without prejudice to the existing ECE programmes, on the follow-up at the regional level of the Fourth World Conference on Women.

Duration: Continuing.

00.2.3 Promotion of sustainable development at the regional level

Description: The Commission, in accordance with decisions F (48) and F (49), will continue to pay particular attention to the implementation of sustainable development at the regional level pursuant to relevant provisions of Agenda 21 and General Assembly resolutions.

Work accomplished: The ECE Action Plan on the regional implementation of Agenda 21 (see E/ECE/1303) was transmitted to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development in May 1994 with the general approval of the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems.

A regional conference on transport and environment will be held in 1996 (see 00.1.7).

Work to be undertaken: Following this Action Plan, the Principal Subsidiary Bodies are integrating environmental considerations into their sectoral activities and are thus promoting sustainable development across the spectrum of ECE's activities.

The Executive Secretary will continue to bring to the attention of the Executive Secretaries of the other regional commissions the ECE activities aimed at contributing to sustainable development and strengthening of international cooperation in this field, and in particular the results and follow-up of the Bergen Conference.

In its decision E (50) the Commission:

(a) Decided to hold in 1996 during its fifty-first annual session a Round Table Conference on cooperation and sustainable industrial development;

(b) Invited the Executive Secretary to prepare, in cooperation with other subsidiary bodies, relevant international organizations and NGOs, as well as representatives of the business community and in consultations with ECE experts in the field of industrial cooperation, a Round Table Conference with a view to elaborating concrete proposals on strengthening cooperation in the field of sustainable industrial development, including modalities of the assistance to the countries in transition in this area.

In its decision G (50) the Commission:

(a) Stressed the need for all relevant Principal Subsidiary Bodies, taking into account their respective spheres of competence, to strengthen their activities in the field of environment and sustainable development, and took note of the report of the Committee on Environmental Policy on problems and bottlenecks in the ECE activities in the field of the environment and sustainable development and endorses the recommendations by the Committee in that respect;

(b) Invited ECE member States and the EU to continue to support the further development of the "Environment for Europe" process and the preparations for the Ministerial Conference to be held in Sofia in October 1995, and requested the Executive Secretary to continue to support, within existing resources, the Working Group of Senior Governmental Officials in coordinating this work and the Bulgarian Government in its organizational work for the Conference;

(c) Invited the ECE member States, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions and other potential donors to consider the financial and technical needs of the countries in transition in implementing the provisions of the above-mentioned Conventions and Protocols.

Duration: Five years (1988-1995).

00.2.4 International cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant

Description: As a follow-up to decision C (46), Assembly resolution 47/165, Council resolution 1992/38 and decision J (48), paragraph 7 of decision A (49) called upon the Principal Subsidiary Bodies, in cooperation with the Department of Humanitarian Affairs (DHA), WHO and IAEA, taking into account their respective spheres of competence, to continue to contribute to the work of the Commission to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl accident.

Work accomplished: A number of ECE subsidiary bodies have continued to review proposals for activities to address and mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster. The secretariat has

continued its participation, in cooperation with DHA, in its coordination of international cooperation in this regard. The secretariat has also consulted UNIDO on possible forms of cooperation in the field of water.

Work to be undertaken: The DHA, as coordinator for international cooperation, has invited ECE to participate in preparatory work for the tenth anniversary of the accident.

Duration: Continuing

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 00.3: COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

00.3.1 Review of the Commission's cooperation with other United Nations bodies

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will review its activities in support of and its contribution to other United Nations programmes, especially those of UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP and UNFPA, as well as of the other regional commissions. It will also consider matters relating to its cooperation with other United Nations bodies including the specialized agencies such as FAO, ILO, UNESCO, UNIDO and WHO, as well as IAEA. Special attention will be paid to problems of the member countries of the ECE which are developing from the economic point of view as part of the Commission's contribution to the global programmes and objectives of the United Nations aiming at economic development.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The Commission carries out this review annually on the basis of the Executive Secretary's report on the participation of such organizations and programmes in the Commission's work; on the Commission's own contribution to the programmes of these organizations; and on the secretariat's cooperation with the secretariats of these organizations, including the secretariats of the other regional commissions.

Duration: Continuing.

00.3.2 Review of the Commission's cooperation and coordination of activities with other international organizations and institutions

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will review its activities related to cooperation and coordination of its activities with other international economic organizations and institutions, and with international non-governmental organizations participating in the work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, with particular regard to those organizations and institutions mentioned in decision O (45).

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The Commission undertakes this review annually on the basis of the Executive Secretary's report on the relevant activities arising out of the participation of such organizations and their secretariats in, and the contribution they make to, the work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies (see document E/ECE/1319). In its decision A (50) the Commission stressed the importance of establishing close cooperation with the Council of Europe and its Parliamentary Assembly and invited the Executive Secretary to undertake steps to this end.

Duration: Continuing.

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SUB-PROGRAMME 01 - ENVIRONMENT

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Environmental Policy, approved by the Committee at its first session (ECE/CEP/1, paras. 50-52 and Annex I) with a priority ranking established according to the Committee's decision taken at its special session (ECE/CEP/8, para. 15) accompanied by the comments of the Committee's Bureau. */

Programme activity 01.1: "Environment for Europe" process

Programme elements

- 01.1.1 Preparations for the Sofia Ministerial Conference (1)
- 01.1.2 Environmental Programme for Europe (2)
- 01.1.3 Environmental rights and obligations (12)

Programme activity 01.2: Strengthening environmental management capabilities

Programme elements

- 01.2.1 National environmental performance reviews (3)
- 01.2.2 Improvement of environmental management in countries with economies in transition (10)
- 01.2.3 Management of hazardous chemicals (13)

Programme activity 01.3: Promotion of sustainable development

Programme elements

- 01.3.1 Environment and economics: assessment of the situation in economies in transition (17)
- 01.3.2 Use of economic instruments for environmental policies (3)
- 01.3.3 Pricing of natural resources (23)
- 01.3.4 Interaction between privatization processes and the environment (22)

Programme activity 01.4: Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context

Programme elements

- 01.4.1 Policies and strategies promoting environmental impact assessment (EIA) (3)
- 01.4.2 Promotion of bilateral and multilateral cooperation (16)
- 01.4.3 Public participation in EIA (19)
- 01.4.4 Strengthening the capability of future Parties to comply with the obligations under the Convention (9)
- 01.4.5 Methodological aspects (27)
- 01.4.6 Preparation of draft rules of procedure for the Meeting of the Parties (29)

Programme activity 01.5: Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

Programme elements

- 01.5.1 Policies and strategies (10)
- 01.5.2 Prevention, control and reduction of pollution from point sources (8)
- 01.5.3 Prevention, control and reduction of pollution from diffuse sources (6)
- 01.5.4 Monitoring and assessment of conditions of transboundary waters (7)
- 01.5.5 Bilateral and multilateral agreements and other arrangements regarding the protection and use of transboundary waters (22)
- 01.5.6 Legal and administrative aspects (25)
- 01.5.7 Guidelines on sustainable water management (17)

Programme activity 01.6: Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents

Programme elements

01.6.1 Information on the implementation of the Convention (21)
01.6.2 Points of contact (25)
01.6.3 Regional Coordinating Centre for Industrial Accident Training and Exercises (13)
01.6.4 Regional Coordinating Centre for the Prevention of Industrial Accidents (15)
01.6.5 Past industrial accidents (28)
01.6.6 Classification of hazardous substances and identification of hazardous activities (20)

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*/ (a) The present priority ranking represents a first attempt to apply to composite scoring approach;

(b) The ranking reflects in an aggregated way the views of 31 member countries, nullifying country or subregional differences;

(c) No qualification may be given to individual programme elements from the present ranking. However, the nine elements with the highest scores may be generally considered of the highest priority;

(d) The present ranking is intended to be thought-provoking rather than a basis for budget considerations.

SUB-PROGRAMME 02 - TRANSPORT

Authority: Programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee, approved by the Committee at its fifty-seventh session (ECE/TRANS/111, para. 139 and Add.1)

Programme activity 02.1: Transport trends and economics

Programme elements

02.1.1 Review of general trends with regard to transport development and transport policy (1)
02.1.2 Analysis of specific transport economic issues (2)
02.1.3 Development of transport in the Mediterranean Region (2)

Programme activity 02.2: Road transport

Programme elements

02.2.1 Road transport infrastructure (1)
02.2.2 Harmonization of requirements concerning international road transport and facilitation of its operations (1)
02.2.3 Road transport safety (1)
02.2.4 Construction of vehicles (1)

Programme activity 02.3: Rail transport

Programme elements

02.3.1 Rail transport infrastructure (1)
02.3.2 Linking of the European transport network to that of other regions' railways (3)
02.3.3 Harmonization of requirements concerning international railway transport and facilitation of its operations (1)
02.3.4 Rail safety (1)

Programme activity 02.4: Inland water transport

Programme elements

02.4.1 Inland waterway infrastructure (1)

02.4.2 Harmonization of requirements concerning international inland waterway transport and facilitation of its operations, including the study of legal provisions (2)

02.4.3 Harmonization and improvement of standards for inland navigation vessels (3)

02.4.4 Inland water transport safety (1)

Programme activity 02.5: Transport of dangerous goods

Programme elements

02.5.1 Regulations on the transport of dangerous goods by road, rail, inland waterways and combined transport (1)

Programme activity 02.6: Environmental protection and energy saving in transport

Programme elements

02.6.1 Impact of transport infrastructure and operations on the environment, including pollution and noise (1)

02.6.2 1996 Regional Conference on Transport and the Environment

Programme activity 02.7: Combined transport

Programme elements

02.7.1 Promotion of combined and multimodal transport (1)

02.7.2 Safety requirements for the construction, maintenance and handling of combined transport equipment (2)

Programme activity 02.8: Customs questions affecting transport

Programme elements

02.8.1 Harmonization of requirements concerning several modes of transport and facilitation of their operation (2)

Programme activity 02.9: Transport of perishable foodstuffs

Programme elements

02.9.1 Harmonization of regulations and standards relating to the international transport of perishable foodstuffs and facilitation of its operation (2)

Programme activity 02.10: Transport statistics and information

Programme elements

02.10.1 Methods of collection and definition of statistics on inland transport and road traffic accidents (2)

02.10.2 Publication of statistical information in the field of transport (3)

Programme activity 02.11: Facilitation of movement and transport of disabled persons

Programme elements

02.11.1 Road, rail and inland waterway transport aspects (3)

Programme activity 02.12: General issues

Programme elements

02.12.1 Periodical circulation of selected transport information (3)

SUB-PROGRAMME 03 - STATISTICS

Authority: Programme of work of the Conference of European Statisticians, approved by the Conference at its forty-second session (ECE/CES/45, paras. 20-71 and CES/830 and Add.1-6).

Programme activity 03.1: Organization and operation of statistical services

Programme elements

- 03.1.1 Issues of statistical policy (A)
- 03.1.2 Transition countries (A)
- 03.1.3 Promotion and coordination of international statistical work (A)
- 03.1.4 Technical assistance to developing countries (A)

Programme activity 03.2: Technical infrastructure and other cross-cutting issues

Programme elements

- 03.2.1 Management of statistical information technology (A)
- 03.2.2 Statistical data collection and processing (A)
- 03.2.3 Dissemination and interchange of statistical information (A)
- 03.2.4 Industry, commodity and occupation classifications (C)
- 03.2.5 Statistical methodology (C)
- 03.2.6 Geography (A)
- 03.2.7 Regional statistics (C)
- 03.2.8 Training (C)

Programme activity 03.3: Economic statistics

Programme elements

- 03.3.1 Implementation of the system of national accounts (A)
- 03.3.2 Money and banking, government finance, and balance of payments (C)
- 03.3.3 International trade in goods (C)
- 03.3.4 Transport (A)
- 03.3.5 Distributive trade (C)
- 03.3.6 International trade in services (C)
- 03.3.7 Tourism (C)
- 03.3.8 Services statistics: Marketed and non-marketed services (A)
- 03.3.9 Price statistics, including purchasing power parities (A)
- 03.3.10 Agricultural statistics (A)
- 03.3.11 Industrial statistics (C)
- 03.3.12 Energy statistics (B)
- 03.3.13 Science and technology statistics (C)
- 03.3.14 Business registers (A)
- 03.3.XX Work done by other organizations in other fields of economic statistics

Programme activity 03.4: Social and demographic statistics

Programme elements

- 03.4.1 Population and housing censuses (A)
- 03.4.2 Registers and administrative record for social and demographic statistics (A)
- 03.4.3 Social indicators (C)
- 03.4.4 Health statistics (C)
- 03.4.5 Safety and public security statistics (C)
- 03.4.6 Education and training statistics (B)
- 03.4.7 Culture statistics (C)
- 03.4.8 Labour statistics (C)
- 03.4.9 Demographic statistics (including projections, migration and fertility) (A)
- 03.4.10 Human settlements and housing statistics (C)

03.4.11 Statistics of household income, of the welfare of the population and of income inequality (B)
03.4.12 Statistics on populations groups of special interest (A)
03.4.13 Multi-purpose social surveys (C)

Programme activity 03.5: Natural resources and environment statistics
Programme elements
03.5.1 Standards and frameworks for environmental data and indicators (A)
03.5.2 Natural resources and environmental accounting (A)
03.5.3 Environmental database development and dissemination (A)

Programme activity 03.6: Dissemination and support for secretariat activities
Programme elements
03.6.1 Dissemination of statistical data by the secretariats (A)
03.6.2 Statistical support for other activities of the secretariats (A)

SUB-PROGRAMME 04 - TRADE FACILITATION

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on the Development of Trade, approved by the Committee at its forty-third session (ECE/TRADE/194, para.35 and Annex).

Programme activity 04.1: Data elements and automatic data interchange

Programme activity 04.2: International trade procedures and documentation

SUB-PROGRAMME 05 - ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

Authority: Programme of work of the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments, approved by the Senior Advisers at their thirtieth session (ECE/EC.AD/44, paras. 32-38 and Annex I)

Programme activity 05.1: Exchange of information on economic developments
Programme elements
05.1.1 Exchange of information on the development of national economies and on policies and programmes (1)

Programme activity 05.2: Long-term projections and perspectives
Programme elements
05.2.1 Growth conditions in the period 1995-1999 and their long-term implications (2)
05.2.2 Specialized long-term macroeconomic database and related modelling work (6)

Programme activity 05.3: Selected structural economic issues
Programme elements
05.3.1 International trade and structural changes - interregional and intraregional trends and policies (4)
05.3.2 Structural changes in the ECE region and their impact on employment, labour productivity, working patterns and income distribution (3)
05.3.3 Sustainable economic development (5)

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission; relevant resolutions and other decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the Commission.

Programme activity 05.4: Economic developments, problems and prospects in the ECE region

Programme elements

05.4.1 Review of economic developments, problems and prospects in the ECE region

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will review economic developments, problems and prospects in the ECE region.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: In response to Commission decisions O (45) and B (46), particular emphasis is given to the analysis of the transition economies and related policy issues. This is reflected in the annual Economic Survey of Europe and the Economic Bulletin for Europe, both of which contain an increased coverage of economic and policy developments in the transition economies. Both the Survey and the Bulletin, as well as other special studies and statistical bulletins prepared and published by the secretariat, are made available to the Commission for this annual review. In its decision B (46), the Commission invited the Senior Economic Advisers and the secretariat, in accordance with the relevant provisions of decision O (45) and having in mind the right and responsibility of the secretariat to exercise independent judgement in its analysis, to deepen their consultations in order to achieve the highest quality of the Survey, notably by improving pre-publication exchange of views; and stressed the need for this Survey to be published in time to enable it to be properly studied and reflected upon during the annual session (paragraph 8).

Duration: Continuing

05.4.2 Population

Description: The Executive Secretary carries out work in the field of population, within existing resources, and maintains collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) for the implementation of the relevant recommendations of regional meetings of experts on population convened periodically, but not more than every two years, in cooperation with UNFPA. These meetings aim to provide consultations amongst Governments and the dissemination and exchange of information on population problems and policies in the ECE region.

Work accomplished: Collaboration with UNFPA is maintained through projects dealing, respectively, with economic and social implications of aging, population and development in southern Europe, integration of population and socio-economic policies, migration, and promotion of fertility and family surveys in the ECE region. Funding for these projects is provided by UNFPA. ECE actively participated in the International Conference on Population and Development in 1994, as mandated by the General Assembly, having organized a European Population Conference in Geneva, in cooperation with the Council of Europe and UNFPA.

Work to be undertaken: Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development in 1994 at the regional level, in cooperation and collaboration with the other relevant organizations, paying special attention to the problems of countries in transition, as well as the continuation of ongoing activities as described.

Duration: Continuing.

SUB-PROGRAMME 06 - ENERGY

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Energy, approved by the Committee at its fourth session (ECE/ENERGY/26, paras. 82-83 and ENERGY/R.104/Rev.1).

Programme activity 06.1: Energy reforms in central and eastern Europe

Programme elements

06.1.1 Market adaptation of the energy economies in central and eastern Europe (1)
06.1.2 Transition of the coal industry from central planning to market economy (2)
06.1.3 The implication of economic reforms in central and eastern Europe on electric power demand, supply and cooperation (3)
06.1.4 Economic reforms and restructuring in eastern and central Europe - their implications and significance for the gas market and the gas industry in the ECE region (4)

Programme activity 06.2 Rational use of energy, efficiency and conservation

Programme elements

06.2.1 Energy Efficiency 2000 (5)
06.2.2 Energy efficiency standards (6)
06.2.3 Energy conservation developments, policies and prospects in the region (7)
06.2.4 Rational use of coal, efficiency and conservation (8)
06.2.5 Energy efficiency in electric power (9)
06.2.6 Rational use of gas, including conservation and efficiency measures (10)

Programme activity 06.3: Interface between energy and the environment

Programme elements

06.3.1 Interface between energy and environment: sustainable development (15)
06.3.2 Economic instruments for sustainable energy development (16)
06.3.3 Sustainable coal development (17)
06.3.4 Environmental protection related to coal mining and coal utilization (18)
06.3.5 Environmental aspects in electric power (19)
06.3.6 Sustainable development in electric power (20)
06.3.7 Gas industry and the environment, including climate change and sustainable development (21)

Programme activity 06.4: Energy policies and prospects and related statistics and projections

Programme elements

06.4.1 National energy programmes, policies and prospects, and related balances, projections and databanks (22)
06.4.2 Annual Bulletin of Energy Statistics for Europe (23)
06.4.3 Overview of energy activities in ECE (24)

Programme activity 06.5: Energy demand and supply issues for sustainable development

Programme elements

06.5.1 Significant new developments affecting energy demand and supply in the short and medium run (25)
06.5.2 Promoting international cooperation for renewable sources of energy (NRSE) (26)
06.5.3 Developments in the coal industry (27)
06.5.4 Electric power developments, policies and statistics (28)
06.5.5 Developments in the gas industry, including trade and interconnections/extensions of gas networks (29)

Programme activity 06.6: Energy trade, trade facilitation and infrastructure

Programme elements

06.6.1 Energy trade in the ECE region in the worldwide context (11)
06.6.2 Market trends and trade facilitation in the coal industry (12)
06.6.3 Gas trade and interconnections/extensions of gas networks in Europe (13)
06.6.4 Interconnection of electric power in Europe (14)

SUB-PROGRAMME 07 - DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on the Development of Trade, approved by the Committee at its forty-third session (ECE/TRADE/194, para.35 and Annex).

Programme activity 07.1: Trade promotion

Programme elements

07.1.1 Preparation and revision of Guides relating to international commercial transactions (2)
07.1.2 Organization of seminars and workshops (3)
07.1.3 Information relevant to business operators (6)

Programme activity 07.2: Trade analysis

Programme elements

07.2.1 Discussion themes for Committee's annual sessions (4)
07.2.2 Analysis of recent and prospective trade trends, policies and problems (5)

SUB-PROGRAMME 08 - INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY

08(A) - SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Authority: Programme of work of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology, approved by the Senior Advisers at their twenty-first session (ECE/SC.TECH/46, paras. 26-27 and Annex).

Programme activity 08(A).1: Current developments in science and technology policies

Programme elements

08(A).1.1 Review of changes in national policies, priorities and institutions, and international cooperation (1)

Programme activity 08(A).2: Role of science and technology in securing sustainable development of the economies in transition

Programme elements

08(A).2.1 State policy in economies in transition aimed at promoting innovation (3)
08(A).2.2 Reorganization of the system of management of science and technology under new economic and political conditions (4)

Programme activity 08(A).3: Selected issues in science and technology

Programme elements

08(A).3.1 Inventory of existing safety guidelines in biotechnology (2)

8(B) - CHEMICALS

Authority: Programme of work of the Working Party on the Chemical Industry, approved by the Working Party at its fourth session (ECE/CHEM/96, paras. 60-62 and Annex I).

Programme activity 08(B).1: Long- and medium-term trends and prospects including current developments and statistics in the chemical industry

- 08(B).1.1 The Chemical Industry - Annual Review (1)
- 08(B).1.2 Market trends and outlook for selected chemical products (13)
- 08(B).1.3 Development of internationally comparable statistics including those for specialized products (9)
- 08(B).1.4 Publication of the Bulletin of Trade in Chemical Products (14)

Programme activity 08(B).2: Chemical industry - sustainable economic and ecological development (CHEMISEED) and other environmental and resource issues in the chemical industry

Programme elements

- 08(B).2.1 Environmental clean-up of selected sites polluted by chemicals in central and eastern Europe (4)
- 08(B).2.2 Chemical legislation in the countries of the ECE region (3)
- 08(B).2.3 Complex utilization of raw materials using advanced low- and non-waste process technologies (5)
- 08(B).2.4 Regional Environmental Management Centre for the Chemical Industry (7)
- 08(B).2.5 Soil decontamination and remediation technologies (6)

Programme activity 08(B).3: Economic issues and information on the chemical industry including assistance to countries in transition

Programme element

- 08(B).3.1 Directory of the Chemical Industry (2)
- 08(B).3.2 Trends in structural and ownership changes in the chemical industries of the economies in transition (8)
- 08(B).3.3 Studies of national developments in the chemical industry (10)
- 08(B).3.4 Industrial parks in the ECE region (12)

Programme activity 08(B).4: Advanced chemical processes and products

Programme element

- 08(B).4.1 Innovative technologies (11)

08(C) - ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES AND AUTOMATION

Authority: Programme of work of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation, approved by the Working Party at its thirteenth session (ECE/ENG.AUT/54, para. 42 and Annex I)

Programme activity 08(C).1: Current medium- and long-term trends and prospects in engineering industries and automation

Programme elements

- 08(C).1.1 Medium- and long-term assessment of engineering industries in national, regional and global economies (3)
- 08(C).1.2 Current developments and prospects in engineering industries and automation, including appropriate aspects of international cooperation in this sector (2)

Programme activity 08(C).2: The role of engineering industries in environmental protection and resource saving

Programme elements

08(C).2.1 Low-waste technologies in engineering industries (7)

08(C).2.2 Electric vehicle rallies and associated activities (8)

Programme activity 08(C).3: Assistance to engineering industries in economies in transition

Programme elements

08(C).3.1 Workshop on Economic Aspects of the Implementation of New Technologies in Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) (4)

08(C).3.2 Engineering materials and technologies (9)

Programme activity 08(C).4: Selected issues in engineering industries and in automation

Programme elements

08(C).4.1 Rehabilitation engineering (6)

08(C).4.2 Industrial robots (5)

Programme activity 08(C).5: Statistics in engineering industries and automation

Programme elements

08(C).5.1 Development of internationally comparable statistics (1)

08(D) - STANDARDIZATION

Authority: Programme of work of Working Party on Standardization Policies, approved by Working Party at its fourth session (ECE/STAND/40, para. 18 and Annex I).

Programme activity 08(D).1: Coordination

Programme elements

08(D).1.1 Identification of problems (6)

08(D).1.2 Regular guidance for programme of work for international standardization through identification of sectors which are of interest to member Governments (7)

08(D).1.3 Preparation and implementation of recommendations (8)

Programme activity 08(D).2: Harmonization

Programme elements

08(D).2.1 Review of developments, prospects and problems at the international, regional and national levels (9)

08(D).2.2 Measures to facilitate the harmonization of principles and practices of standardization and related activities (10)

08(D).2.3 Training (4)

08(D).2.4 Measures to facilitate the implementation of standards and technical regulations (11)

08(D).2.5 Approval of definitions of terms used internationally in the fields of standardization and related activities (12)

08(D).2.6 Preparation and implementation of recommendations (14)

Programme activity 08(D).3: Conformity assessment

Programme elements

08(D).3.1 Identification of problems (1)

08(D).3.2 Promotion of international certification systems and arrangements (2)

08(D).3.3 Measures to achieve mutual confidence in the technical competence and reliability of national conformity assessment systems (3)

08(D).3.5 Aspects of metrology relevant to testing activities (5)

08(E) - STEEL

Authority: Programme of work of the Working Party on Steel, approved by the Working Party at its fourth session (ECE/STEEL/87, paras. 61-62 and Annex I).

Programme activity 08(E).1: Long-term trends and prospects in the iron and steel industry (5)

Programme element

08(E).1.1 Long-term prospects in the iron and steel industry

Programme activity 08(E).2: Current developments and medium-term prospects in the iron and steel industry, including international trade (1)

Programme element

08(E).2.1 Short-term developments and prospects in the steel industry and the steel market

Programme activity 08(E).3: Economic and technological issues in the iron and steel industry, including assistance to countries in transition (3)

Programme elements

08(E).3.1 Studies of national developments in the iron and steel industry
08(E).3.2 Restructuring and changing ownership in the steel industry
08(E).3.3 Privatization and structural changes in the steel industry in countries in transition

Programme activity 08(E).4: Metallurgy and ecology - environmental issues in the iron and steel industry (4)

Programme elements

08(E).4.1 Iron and steel scrap: its significance and influence on further developments in the iron and steel industries
08(E).4.2 The steel industry and recycling
08(E).4.3 Processing, utilization and disposal of waste materials in the steel industry
08(E).4.4 Bibliography of environmental publications in the steel sector
08(E).4.5 Harmonization of regulations

Programme activity 08(E).5: Iron and steel statistics (2)

Programme elements

08(E).5.1 Development of steel statistics
08(E).5.2 Publication of steel statistics

SUB-PROGRAMME 09 - AGRICULTURE AND TIMBER

09(A) - AGRICULTURE

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Agricultural Problems, approved by the Committee at its forty-fifth session (ECE/AGRI/128, paras. 31-32 and Annex I)

Programme activity 09(A).1: Economic analysis of the agri-food sector

Programme elements

09(A).1.1 Review of recent developments and prospects in agriculture and agricultural policies in the European region (5)
09(A).1.2 Review of agricultural markets and trade (6)
09(A).1.3 Activities of the FAO/ECE Working Party on the Economics of the Agri-Food Sector and Farm Management (1)
09(A).1.4 Prices of agricultural products and inputs (10)
09(A).1.5 National agricultural accounts (14)

Programme activity 09(A).2: Agriculture and the environment

Programme elements

09(A).2.1 Economic, legal, technological and regulatory measures for the promotion of environmentally sustainable agriculture and production of healthy food (2)

09(A).2.2 Integrated environmentally sound agricultural practices (4)

09(A).2.3 Effects of radionuclear contamination and measures for the elimination of their consequences for agriculture and rural areas (13)

09(A).2.4 External environmental factors (including pollution by industries and other human activities) and their impact on the quantity and quality of agricultural production: economic, regulatory and institutional aspects (9)

Programme activity 09(A).3: Standardization of perishable produce and quality development

Programme elements

09(A).3.1 Activities of the Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development (3)

Programme activity 09(A).4: Food and agricultural statistics

Programme element

09(A).4.1 Improvement, development and harmonization of food and agricultural statistics (7)

09(A).4.2 New agricultural statistics in transition countries (11)

09(A).4.3 Environment-related agricultural statistics (8)

09(A).4.4 Handbook for international collection of statistics (12)

SUB-PROGRAMME 09(B) - TIMBER

Authority: Programme of work of the Timber Committee, approved by the Committee at its fifty-second session (ECE/TIM/83, paras. 51-58 and Annexes I and II) (integrated programme for the Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission (EFC); some items for which the EFC is responsible are also shown for information, and to preserve a common numbering system).

Programme activity 09(B).1: Policies for sustainable development of the forest and forest industries sector (including analysis for policy formulation)

Programme elements

09(B).1.1 Contribution to the follow-up of UNCED and the Helsinki Ministerial Conference on Protection of Forests in Europe (1)

09(B).1.2 Outlook for the supply and demand of timber (3)

09(B).1.3 Outlook for the supply and demand of non-wood goods and services (8)

09(B).1.4 Review of rational forest policies and tropical policy issues (EFC responsibility)

09(B).1.5 Productivity in the forest sector (19)

09(B).1.6 Use of wood for energy (12)

09(B).1.7 Recycling of paper: consequences for the sector (15)

09(B).1.8 Forest sector policies in the Mediterranean region (EFC responsibility)

09(B).1.9 Promotion of public awareness and understanding, including public relations (10)

09(B).1.10 Certification of forest products (11)

Programme activity 09(B).2: Data and information for sustainable development

Programme elements

09(B).2.1 Monitoring of the temperate and boreal forest resource (Forest Resource Assessment 2000) (5)

09(B).2.2 Collection and dissemination of forest products statistics (4)

09(B).2.3 Research networks on Mediterranean forestry questions (EFC responsibility)

09(B).2.4 Forest fire statistics (20)

Programme activity 09(B).3: Promotion of sustainable forestry

Programme elements

09(B).3.1 Multiple use forestry (13)
09(B).3.2 Management of mountain watersheds (EFC responsibility)
09(B).3.3 Development of the human resource (14)

Programme activity 09(B).4: Protection of forests, prevention and control of forest damage

Programme elements

09(B).4.1 Forest fire prevention and control (18)
09(B).4.2 Effects of pollution and climate change on forests and the sector as a whole (17)
09(B).4.3 Management of forests in areas contaminated by radiation (16)

Programme activity 09(B).5: Assistance to countries in transition

Programme elements

09(B).5.1 Implementation of Resolution H3 of the Helsinki Ministerial Conference (6)
09(B).5.2 Programme of activities for countries in transition, notably workshops (7)

Programme activity 09(B).6: Forest industries and markets for forest products

Programme elements

09(B).6.1 Review of markets for forest products and short term forecasts (2)
09(B).6.2 Structural trends in markets for forest products and in the structure and capacity of forest industries (9)

SUB-PROGRAMME 10 - HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Human Settlements, approved by the Committee at its fifty-fifth session (ECE/HBP/91, paras. 42-44 and Annex I).

Programme activity 10.1: Basic issues

Programme elements

10.1.2 Human settlements situation and related current trends and policies (1)
10.1.2 Development of human settlements statistics (2)
10.1.3 ECE contribution to the Habitat II Conference (1)

Programme activity 10.2: Sustainable development of human settlements

Programme elements

10.2.1 Promotion of sustainable human settlements policies (1)
10.2.2 Major trends influencing human settlements development (2)
10.2.3 Human settlements problems in southern Europe (2)

Programme activity 10.3: Process of socio-economic transition

Programme elements

10.3.1 Modernization policies for built-up areas (1)
10.3.2 Management of land, housing and building (1)
10.3.3 Country profiles on the housing sector (1)
10.3.4 Practical transition problems (1)

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